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Celebrity Buzz pg 30

Miss California dethroned

Sunny Side

Follow Metro's SunnySide initiative as we help you find the good news around Vancouver and Canada. This is also a Call to Action for you to send us your suggestions at vancouverletters@metronews.ca, metronews.ca or on Twitter @metrovancouver.

On metronews.ca

- **Calling on all Vancouverites — share your SunnySide thoughts on what makes Vancouver tick: People, places, events and architecture on Twitter using #sunnyside**
- **See what other Metro readers are doing and saying about SunnySide**

Today

- **Young patients show support for Cancer Ride cyclists, pg 2**

New Moon

After a week, Metro Canada ends its look at filming of New Moon, the newest film in the TWILIGHT series, with an interview with actor Robert Pattinson, pg 27

- **You can read the whole series online at metronews.ca**

On the web

Stay informed:

- Go to metronews.ca for your weekend news updates.

Please recycle

Street **Hockey**

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Jerome Drapeau, left, and Johnny Demos of the street hockey team Frog Legs outside GM Place. Their team is one of hundreds taking part in this weekend's PlayOn! four-on-four street hockey tournament in Downtown Vancouver. Story, pg 4

Craigslist car seller hit with frying pan

18-year-old faces five counts after 'bizarre and violent' incident

JEFF HODSON
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An 18-year-old Vancouver man allegedly flew into a violent rage over a Craigslist deal gone sideways and struck a 34-year-old man with a frying pan.

Police allege the victim was then choked, slashed with a knife and then driven to the hospital in his own car, which the suspect then stole

Yeon Chul Peter Lee, 18, will appear in court Friday morning on five counts, including aggravated assault and unlawful confinement for his alleged part in an attack that police called "bizarre and violent."

"This one is particularly disturbing because we don't know at this point what provoked it."
Const. Jana McGuinness

"This certainly is the most violent association in terms of an incident related to Craigslist or any social networking site," said Const. Jana McGuinness outside police headquarters Thursday.

"This one is particularly disturbing because we don't know at this point what provoked it."

According to police, the 18-year-old man answered an advertisement for a for-sale Lexus on Craigslist, a popular online classified service.

He contacted the owner and arranged to have him drive the car to his West End apartment the following day.

The two met about 10:30 a.m. on June 9.

As they were discussing the car, the younger man allegedly flew into an inexplicable rage and struck the older man twice with a frying pan.

As the victim struggled to call 9-1-1, police said he was choked and then slashed with a knife across the face, head and chest.

"In what can only be considered a very strange twist, the suspect … then offered to drive the victim to the hospital," McGuinness said.

The 18-year-old dropped the man off at a health clinic and then drove off in the Lexus, police said.

Police arrested him five hours later at his Barclay Street apartment.

The victim's injuries were not life threatening, McGuinness said. He was treated and released and is recovering at home.

Just giving the lady a ride, officer

TRANSIT An Abbotsford driver was ticketed by police because his passenger was a real dummy.

The 28-year-old man was on the HOV lane on Highway 1 when a pair of transit officers returning to their office noticed that "something was not right about what or who was in the passenger seat."

When the man pulled over his late model Mercedes Benz, the officers found the top half of a female mannequin wearing a grey hoodie in the passenger seat, according to Transit Police Sgt. Tom Seaman.

When the driver failed to offer an explanation, the officers issued a $109 fine for illegally driving in the High-Occupancy Vehicle lane without a (human) passenger. The mannequin and her hoodie were seized.

Transit Police Const. Bruce Shipley said finding the dummy was unexpected.

"That is a first for me", the three-year member of the police service said. "Everyone is in a hurry these days, but the HOV lane is there for a reason, you get caught misusing it and you could be fined."

FERNANDO CARNEIRO/ METRO VANCOUVER

PHOTO SUBMITTED

Transit Police Const. Bruce Shipley with a dummy confiscated from an alleged HOV lane cheater.

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Woodward's development gets non-profit tenants
The first two tenants for the dedicated non-profit space at the Woodward's development will be AIDS Vancouver and W2 Community Media Arts Society, a nine-member arts collaborative. Almost 24,000-square-feet of net lease space is being dedicated to non-profit use. METRO VANCOUVER

Local

Sedaris engulfed by fans

Best-selling writer David Sedaris, left, author of Me Talk Pretty One Day and When You Are Engulfed In Flames, was in Vancouver on Thursday where he enjoyed a "rock star reception" from fans who faced long lineups to meet him. Sedaris signed autographs at a book-store and did a radio appearance.

METRO VANCOUVER

B.C. ready for flu, says top doc

Flu **Outbreak**

FERNANDO CARNEIRO
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British Columbia is well prepared for the world's first pandemic in 40 years, provincial health officer Dr. Perry Kendall said on Thursday after the World Health Organization raised its alert level to 6 — its highest phase.

Kendall said that a "lot of people hear the word pandemic and get concerned."

"It's important to understand that a pandemic does not mean the H1N1 flu virus has become more severe," said Kendall.

"It only refers to the geographic spread of the virus."

MORE COVERAGE, PAGE 7,8

metronews.ca
WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video Now that the WHO has declared a swine flu pandemic, what does that mean? at **metronews.ca /canada**

Kids make their mark

Young patients show support for Cancer Ride cyclists

SunnySide

KRISTEN THOMPSON
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A handful of kids being treated for cancer at B.C. Children's Hospital made an impression on a group of cyclists on Thursday as they prepared for a cross-country journey to raise money for cancer charities.

The children — some still in diapers — dipped their hands in paint and stamped the cyclists' T-shirts to show support for their upcoming 12-day, 5,000-kilometre trek.

Thirty-six riders will leave Coquitlam Centre on Friday, and are set to arrive in Halifax on June 24, for the annual Sears National Kids Cancer Ride.

The event aims to raise awareness and money for childhood cancer research and treatment.

Ginny Martin, whose 20-month-old daughter Shaelyn was diagnosed with leukemia at two months old, said it's an uplifting change to celebrate a cancer event.

"When you're in the hospital you're so helpless, so when it's all over, (you do) anything you can do that helps raise awareness and give back," Martin said.

Jenn Davies, whose brother survived childhood cancer, participated in the event last year and said it was "life altering."

"We rode into cities and towns and met people living with cancer and they were calling us … heroes. They're the heroes, we're just going for a bike ride."

Davies said the ride was the most difficult thing she's ever done — physically and mentally — but it was worth every ache, pain and hill.

"I've resolved to laugh more … criticize less and take my experience as a stepping off point to make a difference in the world."

KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Gabe Staley, 4, centre, who was diagnosed with cancer last year, gets messy outside B.C. Children's Hospital in Vancouver yesterday. For more information visit searsnationalkidscancerride.com.

Preview offers early taste of bike rental

JEFF HODSON
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Vancouverites can get a glimpse of the city's bike friendly future this weekend with a demonstration of Montreal's public bike-sharing program.

The city is looking at a large-scale bike-sharing pilot program that would be in place by the 2010 Games and a full system that could be implemented by next summer.

The Bixi bike system, which will be on-display outside Science World until Monday, is used in Montreal where it has 300 pay stations and more than 2,000 bikes.

A spokesman for Bixi said the system is membership based and the first half-hour is free. Prices increase the longer the bike is out. Bikes can be returned to any of the pay stations.

Mayor Gregor Robertson, who took one of the Bixi bikes for a noon-hour spin in the parking lot of city hall Thursday, said Vancouver is looking to a number of cities, including Montreal and Paris, for examples on how the system would operate.

"For Vancouver itself, we're talking about more than 1,000 bikes," said Robertson. "It could be double that. Certainly there is an appetite, I think, in a city this size."

News in brief

FIRE A fire on Thursday morning destroyed 29 homes under construction near Langside Avenue in Coquitlam. A roofer using propane is believed to be the cause of the fire.

RCMP The RCMP said on Thursday that contrary to some media reports, Mounties have not identified the school targeted by would-be kidnappers. Reports suggesting that Spul'u'Kwuks Elementary in Richmond is being targeted has unnecessarily increased fear at that one location and drawn attention away from other areas that require equal vigilance.

METRO VANCOUVER

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Drug programs had no crime effect, say researchers

Experimental medical heroin-prescription programs in Vancouver and Montreal conducted in 2004-07 had no impact on their surrounding communities' drug-related crime or disorder rates, according to researchers at Simon Fraser University. METRO VANCOUVER

Man's stabbing death city's 14th murder of year

DEATH Vancouver police are investigating their 14th homicide of the year after a man was stabbed to death Thursday morning in a Yaletown highrise.

Two women in the suite at the time were taken in for questioning and later released.

Paramedics called police to the 18th floor of a building at 1067 Marinaside Crescent at 12:30 a.m.

Const. Jana McGuinness said someone in the building called an ambulance.

"Our members found a man inside a suite suffering from stab wounds," said McGuinness. "He was rushed to hospital, but died of his injuries.

"It's still unclear what led up to the altercation and the stabbing," McGuinness said. The man, a Vancouver resident, has not been publicly identified and his next of kin have not been notified.

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

2008

- At this point last year, the city had 11 homicides.

Grocer Seafood policy launch

KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO VANCOUVER

David Suzuki surprised shoppers at Save-On-Foods on Cambie Street yesterday, where he announced the chain's launch of a sustainable seafood policy. The initiative is a partnership between SeaChoice and Overwaitea Food Group to offer customers more sustainable seafood options.

Shadow cabinet named

James admits carbon tax; seeks to make it fair

KRISTEN THOMPSON
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NDP Leader Carole James has axed her call to scrap the carbon tax — one of the key elements of her recent election campaign — and says she's now focusing on ways to make it fairer.

James made the announcement on Thursday after announcing her new shadow cabinet.

"The election is over and the tax is obviously here to stay," James said. "Now it's our job to make the (carbon) tax more effective."

James said the NDP will be pressuring the province to support, among others, school districts and health authorities, which she said will also be hard-hit by the tax, especially given the economy.

The latter issue will be the focus of MLA Jenny Kwan — former Mental Health and Homelessness critic — whom James has appointed critic for small business, technology and economic development.

Kathy Corrigan will be taking on the Olympics portfolio and Shane Simpson, former environment critic, has been appointed to housing and development.

Adrian Dix is staying on as health services critic, as is Mike Farnworth who held on to the public safety portfolio.

"You can see that we have a team of experienced critics," James said. "(Others) may be new to our caucus, but they're not new to … speaking on behalf of their community."

Hockey tournament takes to streets to PlayOn!

The runners-up of last year's PlayOn! four-on-four tournament in Langley like their chances as North America's largest street hockey tournament comes to Downtown Vancouver this weekend.

"I think we'll do better this year," said Johnny Demos, a member of Frog Legs, who won last year's hardest slap shot competition — with a blistering 170 km/h. "We added a couple of players."

Stiff competition

- At noon Saturday local personalities such as Team 1040 morning co-host Scott Rintoul and Urban Rush co-host Michael Eckford are taking on Mayor Gregor Robertson and gold medallist Ben Rutledge in a celebrity challenge game.
- Metro Vancouver is also entering a team. Look for our green T-shirts.

Frog Legs are a reincarnation of The Jam, who finished second in the elite division last year and earned a spot in the national tournament.

"It was wonderful," said Jerome Drapeau, who trekked to Windsor in February to play in the tournament. "There was a lot of teams, good competition."

The Vancouver tournament, which runs Saturday and Sunday, will be held on 25 "street rinks" on seven blocks surrounding Andy Livingstone Park near GM Place.

Organizers of the event expect to have 250 to 300 teams and more than 1,500 people taking part.

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

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Sex trade won't grow: Report

VANCOUVER 2010 Games

It's a myth that the 2010 Olympic Games will lead to an increase in sex trafficking, according to a new study released on Thursday.

Instead, the major concern involving Vancouver's sex workers is that street closures and heavy security will force them to move to more unsafe places, said the report commissioned by the Sex Industry Worker Safety Action Group.

Karen Mirsky of Pivot Legal Society said Vancouver's sex workers are key assets to the police as they know the community best and can provide information about trafficking.

The study was carried out with a grant from the provincial government and Vancouver police support.

METRO VANCOUVER

News in brief

STANDOFF A 20-year-old man is in custody after a four-hour standoff with police in Ridge Meadows. The suspect, who police say is a prolific offender, climbed onto the roof of a home after spotting police.

PROPERTY A Surrey man is being questioned by police after RCMP discovered a warehouse full of property believed to have been stolen from containers at local trucking yards. It included paintings, furniture and a motorcycle. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Evidence of arson found near church: Police

Gatineau police said they found evidence of arson near a 120-year-old Roman Catholic church that was gutted by fire in Gatineau, Que., on Thursday morning. The blaze began at St. Paul's Catholic Church, CBC News Online reports. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Canada

More than 106 arrested in pot bust

More than 106 people were arrested as part of a major marijuana crackdown in Montreal yesterday. Police raided 12 greenhouse equipment businesses in Operation Borax and also apprehended two real estate agents. RCMP Insp. Sylvain Joyal says those agents helped pot producers find homes to rent or buy so that they could run grow operations. REUTERS

Decision looming

Ignatieff needs time to ponder election

Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff has has a decision looming. He has just a day or two to decide whether to bring down Prime Minister Stephen Harper's minority government and force an election over the Conservatives' handling of the economic crisis.

Ignatieff said he needs time to digest the 234-page "report card" Harper released yesterday in an attempt to convince Canadians that the Conservatives are moving quickly to help them get through the recession.

"Only 72 days into this new fiscal year, the unprecedented measures undertaken in our Economic Action Plan are starting to show some results," Harper said in a speech in Cambridge, Ont. "The effects of the recession are beginning to ease."

"Only 72 days into this new fiscal year ... the effects of the recession are beginning to ease."
Prime Minister Stephen Harper

Saddled with a record $50.2-billion federal budget deficit, the worst jobless picture in a decade and depressed business conditions, Harper recounted his government's efforts to spur infrastructure spending, improve the employment insurance system and bail out struggling industries.

The Liberals demanded these quarterly updates in January as a price for keeping Harper's minority in power. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

ISOTOPES MDS Inc.'s chief executive said on Thursday that comments by Prime Minister Stephen Harper that Canada would eventually stop making medical isotopes were "curious" and "confusing," and called on Ottawa to restart its mothballed Maple isotope reactor project. REUTERS

Stanley Park **The inside truth about an old tree**

REUTERS/ANDY CLARK

Workers climb inside and outside a 1,000-year-old hollow tree in the heart of Stanley Park on Thursday. The tree, which has been a popular tourist stop for more than 100 years, is being secured after it became unstable and threatened to fall down.

Did Sri Lankan's article doom Bob Rae?

COURTS The seeds of a decision to bar Bob Rae entry to Sri Lanka may have been planted with the pen of an elderly Sri Lankan expatriate from London, Ont., with a grudge against the federal Liberal Party.

Days before Rae was turned away on Tuesday, Irangani de Silva had one of the many articles and letters she has written targeting politicians and officials published in a Sri Lankan paper. She urged officials to deny Rae entry to Sri Lanka because his report back to Canada would tarnish the country's image. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Court denies Black's plea

COURTS A U.S. Supreme Court justice rejected Thursday former media baron Conrad Black's request to be released from prison while the high court decides whether to uphold his fraud conviction.

In a one-sentence order, Justice John Paul Stevens turned down Black's application for bail pending his appeal.

But the judge said the Canadian-born businessman could refile his request with a U.S. District Court in Illinois.

Last month, the Supreme Court agreed to hear appeals by Black and two ex-colleagues seeking to overturn their convictions for defrauding shareholders of newspaper publisher Hollinger International Inc. of $6.1 million. REUTERS

History

- Black, a member of Britain's House of Lords, has been in prison since March 2008, when he began serving a 6½ year sentence for fraud and obstruction of justice.

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Sears

Fears rise over flu risk to First Nations

Flu Outbreak

EPIDEMIC Health officials say there is no evidence yet to support suggestions the impact of H1N1, also known as swine flu, varies between ethnic groups.

But the officials say Canada is concerned about reports the virus has caused more severe symptoms in some aboriginal communities than in the rest of the population.

The illness continues to act like the regular seasonal flu that Canadians suffer annually, the officials say.

"To make conclusions based on a couple of communities that this is somehow a disease that is worse in a particular ethnic group — it's much too early to make any of those kinds of conclusions or presumptions," said Dr. David Butler-Jones, Canada's chief public health officer.

At least two Indian reserves in the province of Manitoba have been hit unusually hard by outbreaks of the disease, according to media reports, although no deaths have been recorded.

The World Health Organization also has expressed concerns the Inuit people in Canada's Far North were also suffering disproportionately in the current outbreak.

Canada has recorded 2,978 confirmed cases of the swine flu.

REUTERS

Breast cancer patients forgotten?

HEALTH Newfoundland and Labrador health officials say more than five dozen breast cancer patients were overlooked in a massive retesting program.

Eastern Health said 65 patients had not been involved in a sweeping review of hormone receptor tests between 1997 and 2005, CBC News Online reports.

Of the 65, 31 have died.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Ford wants same deal

Ford Motor Co. is warning the Canadian Auto Workers its viability in Canada hinges on securing cost savings the union has already given General Motors and Chrysler.

The CAW recently ratified agreements with GM and Chrysler that resulted in substantial labour-cost concessions.

The deals were a condition for the two giant auto companies to receive U.S. and Canadian government funding and stave off liquidation.

Ford, which has not asked for any government assistance, says it needs the same sort of cost structure as its competitors to stay competitive in Canada.

"In order to maintain our manufacturing presence, we have to be competitive and we can't wait until 2011," said Ford Canada spokesperson Lauren More, referring to the year Ford's current collective agreement expires.

"We are going to be sharing some of that information with the CAW," she said.

Joe Hinrichs, Ford's global head of manufacturing, was to attend a Friday meeting to argue the company's case.

REUTERS

Liberals are moving up, poll shows

POLITICS The opposition Liberals have built on their slim lead over the governing Conservatives, a new poll shows.

But neither party would be assured of clear victory if an election were held today, according to the poll, released Thursday.

The Ekos survey had Liberal support rising to 35.0 per cent in the period May 29 to June 9 from 33.5 per cent in May 7-28.

The Conservatives dropped to 30.3 per cent from 32.3 per cent.

"Neither party seems assured of victory in any election in the near future," Ekos said.

REUTERS

Libyan movie shown in Italy as Gadhafi visits

A copy of the 1981 film The Lion of the Desert, left, telling the story of Libyan guerrilla leader Omar al Mukhtar, was shown in Italy for the first time on television Thursday. Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi, making his first visit to former colonial ruler Italy, arrived in Rome Wednesday wearing a photo of al-Mukhtar. REUTERS

World

McCain defends Palin against Letterman

Republican Senator John McCain has a message for David Letterman: Enough jokes about Sarah Palin and her family. The host of the Late Show with David Letterman drew the ire of Palin this week by joking that Palin daughter's had sex with Yankees star Alex Rodriguez during a baseball game the ex-vice-presidential candidate attended. "I don't understand why Letterman would say that about a young woman," McCain said Thursday. Palin charged that Letterman made "sexually perverted comments," prompting a semi-apology from Letterman on his show on Wednesday. REUTERS

Mexican army takes on corrupt police

DRUG WAR Soldiers are cracking down on corrupt police in Mexico's richest city, exposing the reach of drug traffickers who have tarnished its reputation for stability and order.

Heavily armed troops have rounded up more than 80 police in and around the city of Monterrey this month after finding lists of officers apparently in the pay of the Gulf cartel.

2,500

Number of people killed in Mexico's drug war this year alone.

Security raids came to a head this week when masked federal police faced off in the streets at gun point with city cops alleged to work for the drug gangs. Frightened motorists fled their cars for fear of a shootout that was narrowly avoided. The breakdown in law and order is damaging the image of one of Latin America's top business cities.

Drug killings have flared in the city since 2006 in a fight between the Gulf cartel and gangs from the Pacific state of Sinaloa for smuggling routes into the United States.

The drug war killed more than 6,000 people across Mexico in 2008 and 2,500 people so far this year.

It is President Felipe Calderon's biggest challenge and the violence has started to spill over the U.S. border. REUTERS

Flu pandemic declared

WHO raises alert, makes H1N1 first pandemic of 21st century

Flu Outbreak

The World Health Organization declared an influenza pandemic Thursday and advised governments to prepare for a long-term battle against an unstoppable new flu virus.

The United Nations agency raised its pandemic flu alert to Phase 6 on a six-point scale, indicating the first influenza pandemic since 1968 is underway.

With today's announcement, the WHO moves from an emergency to a longer-term response.

"Based on past experience, this pandemic will be with us for some months, if not years, to come," WHO director-general Dr. Margaret Chan said in a letter.

People aged 30-50, pregnant women or people suffering from chronic conditions such as asthma, diabetes or obesity are at highest risk, Chan told a news conference.

Countries from Australia to Chile and the United States are reporting the new influenza A (H1N1), also known as swine flu, is "crowding out" seasonal flu, becoming the predominant influenza strain, she said.

For now the virus was "pretty stable," but Chan warned that it could still change into a more deadly form, perhaps mixing with the H5N1 bird flu virus circulating widely in poultry.

"So it is incumbent on WHO and all members to stay vigilant and alert for the next year or two or even beyond," she said.

There is also a risk the swine flu could mix with its seasonal H1N1 cousin, which is resistant to the antiviral flu drug Tamiflu, made by Roche AG and Gilead Sciences Inc., Dr. Anne Schuchat of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention told a separate briefing.

Canadian health officials said they were concerned about reports of more severe symptoms in some aboriginal communities, but said it was too soon to say for sure.

"To make conclusions based on a couple of communities that this is somehow a disease that is worse in a particular ethnic group — it's much too early to make any of those kinds of conclusions or presumptions," said Dr. David Butler-Jones, Canada's chief public health officer.

There have been 27,737 infections reported in 74 countries to date, including 141 deaths, according to the WHO's latest tally of laboratory confirmed cases, but the real number of people with the disease is likely to run into at least hundreds of thousands, as mild cases may not have been detected. REUTERS

No vaccine yet

- Different authorities need to work together to speed registration of a safe vaccine, which will not be available before September, WHO director-general Margaret Chan said Thursday. Drugmakers have obtained the influenza A (H1N1) seed virus in the past two weeks, enabling them to begin the production process by growing the virus in eggs.

WOLFGANG RATTAY/REUTERS

A boy wears a mask as he leaves the Japanese International School in a suburb of Duesseldorf, Germany, Thursday. German authorities have confirmed 30 cases of the new flu strain at the school.

News in brief

HUNT CIA director Leon Panetta said Thursday the U.S. intelligence agency believes al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden is hiding in Pakistan and hopes joint operations with Pakistani forces will find him. Asked whether he was sure that bin Laden was in Pakistan, Panetta told reporters: "The last information we had, that's still the case." There are "a number of people" on the ground in Pakistan providing intelligence on al-Qaida targets to the United States, he said. The intelligence agency also is focusing on countries where al-Qaida might find safe haven, like Somalia and Yemen, Panetta said.

NUCLEAR Iran and North Korea are working together to develop ballistic missiles and have made significant progress, the head of the Pentagon's Missile Defense Agency said Thursday. "It really is an international effort going on out there to develop ballistic missile capability between these countries," U.S. Army Lt.-Gen. Patrick O'Reilly said. Iran and North Korea each are at odds with much of the international community over their nuclear programs, and North Korea has tested an atomic bomb. Each has demonstrated a capability to launch missiles with more than one stage, critical to more advanced systems. "We've seen it for years and it continues," O'Reilly said of such co-operation.

SCIENCE A new, super-heavy chemical element numbered 112 will soon be officially included in the periodic table, German researchers said. A team in the southwest German city of Darmstadt first produced 112 in 1996 by firing charged zinc atoms through a 120-metre-long particle accelerator to hit a lead target. "The new element is approximately 277 times heavier than hydrogen," scientists at the GSI Helmholtz Centre for Heavy Ion Research said. REUTERS

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Guantanamo inmates spark furor in Bermuda
Bermuda's decision to grant asylum to four Chinese detainees from Guantanamo Bay sparked a political and diplomatic furor Thursday on the wealthy Atlantic island. Premier Ewart Brown defended the decision to take the men on humanitarian grounds. REUTERS

Berlusconi's wife laments 'muddied' reputation

ITALY The wife of Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi said on Thursday that her reputation had been "muddied" by the media after her public demand for a divorce on grounds of infidelity plunged her husband into a major scandal.

Veronica Berlusconi unleashed a storm of public criticism over her billionaire husband's private life last month when she accused him of "frequenting minors" after he was photographed at the 18th birthday party of an aspiring model in Naples.

Some media, including outlets controlled by 72-year-old Berlusconi's Mediaset group, responded with stories about the private life of Veronica, a former actress and his second wife.

"In these weeks I have watched in silence, without responding in the media, the brutal muddying of my person, my dignity and my marital history," Veronica said in a letter to Italy's best-selling Corriere della Sera newspaper.

She said Italian media had not even touched on the reality of her relationship with Berlusconi, or asked why she had been forced to announce her frustration with their relationship through the media.

"What is certain is that I have always loved him and I have arranged my life around my marriage and my family," she said. REUTERS

Snakes take over police station

AFRICA Police in Sierra Leone have called in the army and fire brigade to try to take back control of a police station which has been overrun by hundreds of venomous snakes.

Snake charmers have tried in vain to lure the beasts, mostly cobras and vipers, out of Gerihun police station in the southern district of Bo. Attempts to smoke them out also failed.

Officers and residents wanting to report crimes have grown too afraid to come to the building.

"Even during work time when statements are being taken, these snakes can come out in dozens. Inhabitants have found it difficult to report cases to the police," station spokesman Brima Kota said. REUTERS

Russian democracy not needed: Report

Think-tank close to ruling party diminishes hopes of reforming system

Russia does not need to move towards greater democracy because the financial crisis requires strong leadership, a think-tank close to the ruling party United Russia has said in a report.

The report for Prime Minister Vladimir Putin's party appears to pour cold water on President Dmitry Medvedev's declared intentions of cautiously reforming Russia's tightly controlled political system.

"The democratization of Russia's political system in the near future cannot be a priority ... The priority for now is good governance."
Report statement

"It would be more honest and realistic to say that the democratization of Russia's political system in the near future cannot be a priority ... The priority for now is good governance," the Public Projects Institute, headed by parliamentarian Vladimir Pligin, said in the report released on Wednesday.

Its conclusions appeared to chime with those of Putin, Russia's president from 2000-2008 and now the dominant partner in a dual leadership with Medvedev.

"In times of war and crisis, a successful political system becomes charismatic, and therefore, inevitably more authoritarian," the report said. REUTERS

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Comment

Blatant protectionism

Buy America is kind of measure that provokes reprisals

InBusiness

Charles Davies

Cats, it appears, can be herded if the stakes are high enough. Our provincial premiers, in an extraordinary display of unanimity, now say they support the Harper government's desire to enshrine state/provincial and local procurement practices under the North American Free Trade Agreement.

By expanding NAFTA this way, Canada would gain an exemption from the Obama administration's Buy America rules.

Buy America instructs state and local governments to purchase only U.S.-made steel or manufactured goods under procurement contracts funded by Washington's $800-billion US economic stimulus package. Exemptions are already held by several countries — Australia, Britain and Mexico among them. They, unlike Canada, had the foresight to negotiate free trade in sub-national procurement contracts with the U.S.

Buy America is blatant protectionism, the kind of appealing, but self-defeating economic strategy governments use in recessions when it's politically necessary to appear to protect domestic jobs. It's also the kind of measure that provokes reprisals. Why just the other day, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities voted to exclude U.S. companies from their procurements. The vote was non-binding, but typical of the pushback that accompanies trade disputes.

Ottawa has a good case for an exemption. The Canadian and U.S. economies are highly integrated. A part made in Canada might go into a U.S.-built component, which is then assembled into a finished Canadian product for shipment back to the U.S. Think of it as a supra-national supply chain.

By one estimate, about 70 per cent of Canada/U.S. trade is this sort of industrial back and forth, which means that penalizing one side automatically disadvantages the other. Canadian officials like to remind Americans that more than seven million U.S. jobs in some 35 states, including the vote-heavy industrialized northeast, depend on trade with Canada. Equally, U.S. companies could lose something like $15 billion a year in business if Canadian municipalities cut them off from procurement contracts.

Canadian officials would like Congress to write an exemption clause into the Buy America legislation or have U.S. President Barack Obama issue an executive order doing the same. Both are remote possibilities, meaning the likeliest course is re-opening NAFTA.

This has its own hazards. In addition to swapping an exemption for access to Canadian procurement business, the U.S. might have other items on its shopping list. A new NAFTA will take time, and may not take effect until U.S. stimulus funds are long gone.

It's great Canada is finally on the case, but we should have taken care of this business long ago.

Charles Davies is a veteran business writer who has worked for Canadian and international news organizations.

MICHAEL DE ADDER

Views

Raise a glass to world's most livable city

UrbanCompass

Paul Sullivan

metronews.ca/sullivan

OK, pop quiz! Would you rather live in: A) Canada's smartest and most cultured city? or B) The world's most livable city — currently the featured locale of the ABC series The Bachelorette?

Thought so.

According to Maclean's, our alleged national magazine, Calgary is Canada's smartest and most cultured city. But according to the Economist, a loftier read all around, Vancouver is, once again, the world's most livable city, right up there with Vienna, Melbourne and … Toronto? Calgary is in fifth place, livable perhaps, but not as livable as Toronto, which, as we all know, is not even a nice place to visit.

Anyone who has been to Calgary or Toronto realizes that Canada's smartest people reside in Vancouver, especially this spring, when the weather has been nothing short of spectacular.

Smart as we Vancouverites are, we're even smarter in January and February, when in Calgary and Toronto, the temperature actually goes below zero. In Vancouver, snow is a recreational option, along with golf, sailing, or quaffing Final Rose Cocktails with our Bachelorette dates.

So what's with Maclean's? Have those people even been to Vancouver? A closer look at the magazine's principal criteria governing smartness and culture makes the whole exercise suspect. Calgary spends more money on culture and is growing faster (when you're No. 5, you try harder). So really, as far as I can tell, it doesn't have as much to do with intelligence as throwing money at things, which is the only thing Calgary is really good at. That and eating a lot of meat.

Of course, since the economy collapsed, Calgary's meal ticket has diminished in value, so we'll see how smart and cultured it is next time around.

Meanwhile, Vancouver's Jillian Harris, this season's Bachelorette, has led her suitors on a merry chase around town, captivating seven million viewers. The Whistler episode airs Monday. No word yet on a Toronto or Calgary episode.

If there is still any doubt in the minds of ex-Calgarians looking for someplace to park their Broncos, The Economist polled 140 cities, using 30 criteria. Vancouver came out on top with a score of 98 per cent. As we did the last time The Economist published its livability survey, in 2007. Exhaustive. Conclusive. Slam dunk.

So, Vancouver, raise your Final Rose Cocktails and make a toast to yourself: There's no place like home!

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.

Worth mentioning

Journalism plays vital role in community: GG

An excerpt from a speech given by Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean as she presented the The Canadian Journalism Foundation Lifetime Achievement Award to former CBC TV journalist Joe Schlesinger, Tuesday night in Toronto.

Joe Schlesinger

The journalist I was and the Governor General I am know that journalism plays a vital role in asserting the civic responsibility of a community, a country and the world.

I know because I grew up in a country where journalists who dared to challenge censorship and tyranny were assassinated.

I know because when I was a journalist, I kept in mind and at heart the example set by those journalists who pursued the truth, often risking their lives to do so.

I know because during the state and official visits I have made as Governor General of Canada to Africa, Afghanistan, South America and Europe, and during my trips all across this country, I have seen that the pens, microphones and cameras wielded by journalists can also act as instruments of social transformation.

Faced with a world that always seems to be in crisis, robbed of its dignity, stripped of its beauty, divided in its fragility, warming at its poles, and assaulted by the fluctuations of its economies, we must also be given the power to reflect, raise our awareness and seek clarification.

I think that that is the most important — and noble — aspect of your profession.

Metro Online Poll Results

44% SAID YES	Is the NDP victory in Nova Scotia a sign of a countrywide shift? *Weigh in on today's question at metronews.ca*	56% SAID NO

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South African fraud worth up to $1.3B uncovered
Hundreds of investors have been fleeced of up to 10 billion rand ($1.3 billion) in what could be South Africa's biggest corporate fraud, a private investigator said Thursday. REUTERS

Business

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Carney talks recovery

Exit strategies urged for stimulus spending

Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney pledged Thursday to stay the course on monetary policy and said it was important for countries to have valid exit strategies from stimulus spending as well as flexible exchange rates.

He repeated past language that he expects to keep the bank's target interest rate at 0.25 per cent through mid-2010, that he retains the flexibility to use unconventional measures and that the recent sharp rise in the Canadian dollar could fully offset recent positive developments in the Canadian economy.

In the prepared text of a speech he was giving in Montreal, he said too much fiscal stimulus by countries could be self-defeating if it leads to higher interest rates or reduces spending by consumers worried about tax hikes.

"It is ... paramount that fiscal policy frameworks retain credibility. This requires both effective current initiatives and realistic exit strategies."
Mark Carney, Bank of Canada

"It is therefore paramount that fiscal policy frameworks retain credibility. This requires both effective current initiatives and realistic exit strategies," he said.

Massive fiscal spending and tax cuts should make growth positive in the United States, Japan and China in the third quarter, but self-sustaining private demand in most major economies is not yet imminent, he said.

In remarks that appeared directed at least partly at China, Carney added countries must adopt coherent macroeconomic policies and allow "real exchange rates to adjust to achieve external balance over time ... Given the current, deeply synchronous global recession, the costs of free riding should be obvious to all."

Carney said the U.S. current account deficit this year would fall by almost two-thirds from its peak, and China's surplus would also fall. REUTERS

Venezuela **Coke Zero banned**

ALEJANDRO RUSTOM/REUTERS

A commuter bus with an ad for Coca-Cola Zero is seen in Caracas Thursday. The Venezuelan government on Wednesday ordered Coca-Cola Co. to withdraw its Coke Zero beverage from the country, citing unspecified dangers to health.

Customers seek bargains at Tiffany

JEWELRY As the economic recession takes a firm hold on consumers, upscale jeweller Tiffany is seeing more customers trying to bargain for lower prices in its stores.

But the jeweller said it will not cut prices for wealthy consumers seeking to save money.

"The price is the price is the price."
Michael Kowalski, Tiffany CEO

"Everyone feels compelled to ask the question," Tiffany chief executive Michael Kowalski said. "And yes, the questions are being asked more often and the answer is the same — the price is the price is the price."

Although Tiffany has seen sales fall 22 per cent in the past quarter, it has vowed to hold the line on prices. Many investors and analysts argue that discounting would tarnish the Tiffany brand.

Tiffany's stand is in contrast to some other upscale retailers, which discounted items during the 2008 holiday season to attract bargain-hungry shoppers. REUTERS

Business in brief

PROFIT Lululemon Athletica reported lower quarterly earnings Thursday and said it expects profit to be flat in the current quarter because of the troubled economy. Earnings fell to $6.5 million US in the company's first quarter from $8.5 million a year earlier.

FORECAST The global economy will contract in 2009 by close to three per cent, more than initially thought, given rising unemployment and underutilization of capacity, World Bank president Robert Zoellick said Thursday. REUTERS

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Your Money

EDITOR: NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA

A hand with homes

Online tool helps track details in the homebuying process

While they are often cause for celebration, planning a home purchase and a move are often cited as some of life's most stressful events.

Many other life moments have built-in backup to help you along the way: Weddings have planners, and vacations offer itineraries and tour guides. It only makes sense, that something as important as a home purchase comes with planners and checklists to keep us organized and in control every step of the way.

My Home Planner, found at homeownership.ca, is a new and useful online tool from Genworth Financial Canada that helps make sense of the homebuying process.

It's like having a constant companion on your journey to homeownership — one with a great memory and a knack for details. An interactive calendar shows you your roadmap at a glance and serves as an official countdown to when you close the deal and move in.

My Home Planner does the memory work for you — keeping track of tasks and decisions that need to be handled on the way to your new home. It even generates email notifications to remind you of key details so that you can stay focused on the big picture.

Want your car in that driveway? My Home Planner is an online tool to help you get it there.

Step-by-step help

Other free resources include:

- A personalization feature that populates your Home Planner calendar with both standard and customized homebuying tasks
- The ability to save your own Home Planner to your desktop or laptop, and print it for easy reference
- Interactive tools like "What Can I Afford" and "Rent vs. Buy" calculators
- A library of articles from industry experts, filled with tips and advice about the homebuying process

Why go it alone? Tools like My Home Planner from Genworth Financial Canada can help you understand what homeownership looks like, plan your journey and close the deal knowing that you haven't missed a single step along the way.

NEWS CANADA

Taking a balanced approach to spending and saving is important to start as soon as your finish your education.

Graduating from school and into the real world

SAVINGS Graduating from university or college is a major accomplishment, and a major step forward in your life.

If there was ever a time to take a balanced approach to saving and spending, it's now. This can help you begin the next stage of your life on strong financial ground.

"While it may be hard to resist the urge to buy everything you want as soon as you land that first good-paying job, also think of where you want to be in five or 10 years and start a plan to help get you there," says Kavita Joshi, RBC's director of student markets.

This can include many things that might not be top of mind but which new grads should think about, such as having an emergency fund.

"You need to cushion yourself in case of unexpected expenses, including periods of unemployment," says Joshi. "Set up a separate savings account not linked to your everyday bank account, and save up for three to six months of everyday living expenses."

Next, start paying off your debt based on which debt has the highest interest rate — this usually means credit cards. That can leave you with more money to start saving for something else new graduates want: A new car or home. The sooner you plan and prepare, the closer you will be to getting what you want.

NEWS CANADA

Internationally Educated Registered Nurses (IENs)

Are you an internationally educated Registered Nurse (RN)?

Vancouver Coastal Health offers a program for Internationally Educated RNs through the Educator Supported STEP Program (Supported Transition Entry to Practice). Successful candidates will be offered a Regular Full-time position, and be supported for up to 14 weeks. The program includes classroom, clinical, and a preceptorship on the unit of hire.

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Jordan jersey stolen from Parker

A man has been arrested for allegedly stealing an autographed Michael Jordan jersey from the home of San Antonio Spurs guard Tony Parker. Detectives found a listing for the jersey on Craigslist that was posted by Christopher James Carolan. The 22-year-old worked for the security company hired to protect the home. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports

Crawford does Dallas

The Dallas Stars named Marc Crawford as their new coach Thursday, bringing in a well-travelled NHL veteran to replace the fired Dave Tippett. The coaching change is the first significant move by general manager Joe Nieuwendyk since he was hired May 31. Crawford has a 470-361-156 record in 13 seasons as an NHL coach.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: CHRIS.CLEMENTS@METRONEWS.CA

NBA Finals Lakers win in OT

CHRIS GRAYTHEN/GETTY IMAGES

Dwight Howard of the Orlando Magic puts a shot up over Trevor Ariza of the Los Angeles Lakers in Game 4 of the 2009 NBA Finals Thursday night in Orlando, Fla. The Lakers won 99-91 in overtime to take a 3-1 series lead.

Showdown for Stanley

Penguins, Red Wings to leave it all on the ice tonight

Stanley Cup
2009 **Final**

(Series tied 3-3)

Pittsburgh at **Detroit**

It is a once-in-a-lifetime chance, an evening of heroes and heartbreak that will end with one team lifting the trophy most hockey players, even the pros, will only ever see up close at the Hockey Hall of Fame.

When the Penguins and Red Wings clash at Detroit's Joe Louis Arena tonight, it will not only be a showdown for the Stanley Cup, a new Game 7 legend is bound to emerge.

Pittsburgh, however, already has one. Though his name isn't at the top of the list when it comes to Stanley Cup lore, it was just five years ago that Ruslan Fedotenko scored both goals in Tampa's 2-1 victory over Calgary in Game 7 of the final.

Now, he not only skates for the Penguins, usually on Evgeni Malkin's wing, he is prone to giving pregame inspirational talks. Given his history, his teammates are bound to listen tonight. So what will the message be?

"It's not about who is scoring. It's about the win. At this point, it doesn't matter who scores, we've just got to get a W and win the Cup."

The Penguins have no shortage of stars. Malkin and Sidney Crosby lead all playoff scorers. Defenceman Sergei Gonchar is one of the best power-play quarterbacks in the game. Hot and cold goaltender Marc-Andre Fleury could steal or give away a championship all on his own.

But there is an all-for-one attitude on the team that everyone, from the captain down, has bought into. It's a big reason why the Penguins are positioned to potentially sip from one of the world's most impressive champagne goblets.

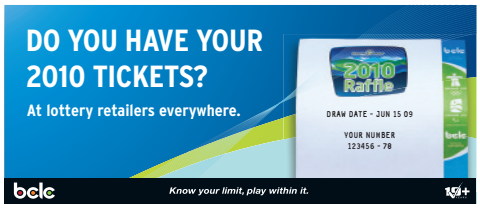
"There might be a sense of responsibility," Crosby said of his own role tonight. "But, you know what, I think everyone feels a part of it. We all want to make sure we make the most of it."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

JASON COHN/REUTERS

Pittsburgh's Hal Gill leans on teammate Sidney Crosby during a Thursday practice, before heading to Detroit to try and stop the Red Wings from winning the Stanley Cup for the second year in a row.

"It's not about who is scoring. It's about the win. At this point, it doesn't matter who scores, we've just got to get a W and win the Cup."
Ruslan Fedotenko, Penguins forward



NHL should end its dog days

FieldofPlay
Scott Russell

metronews.ca/fieldofplay

The slow death of the Phoenix Coyotes in an Arizona courtroom is painful to watch, but it is highly instructive. It's a bit like a wounded dog begging for mercy from a too-proud master.

What is astounding is not that the NHL is trying to protect its ability to place franchises. Nor is it surprising that the league flinches when a maverick tries to lure a weak member of the herd to greener pastures.

No, what really makes you scratch your head is that in tough economic times, the bosses of pro hockey are deaf to the fans' voices.

The bottom line in any sport is that loyal and devoted followers are needed in order to flourish. There has to be a fervent commitment to the cause. In hockey's case, the disciples live in Canada. This is where the game is bred in the bone and where people crave the chance to see an NHL game in real life. In Ontario's Golden Horseshoe, there are millions of these obsessed fans.

In the southern United States, pro hockey is at best an amusement with a handful of curious onlookers. At worst, the NHL in places like Phoenix is an experiment conducted by mad scientists who think they can sustain ice in the heat of the desert.

It's unnatural — at times cruel — to the fans of a beloved game.

The NHL did not fight this hard to keep the Jets in Winnipeg. There were few bleeding hearts in the boardrooms when the Quebec Nordiques were allowed to escape to Colorado, thus robbing hockey of its most compelling rivalries.

What is a good fan to think?

All of this pain and angst and a trumped-up court case in order to breathe life into a barely limping bunch of Coyotes.

Maybe the NHL should do what's fair and what makes good business sense. Perhaps the league might agree that its future is north of the border in Canada where the fans run wild.

It's time to put the Coyotes out of their misery and end the dog days of hockey for good.

"It's time to put the Coyotes out of their misery and end the dog days of hockey for good."

Scott Russell is the Host of CBC Sports Weekend seen Saturday afternoons. He has covered professional and amateur sports including nine Olympic games and numerous world championships.

Sports in brief

SOCCER Cristiano Ronaldo is heading to Real Madrid after Manchester United accepted an offer of $131 million for the transfer, giving the star the right to negotiate with the Spanish club.

TRACK The world's fastest man put on a show at the inaugural Festival of Excellence on Thursday night. Usain Bolt, the 100-metre world record holder from Jamaica, ran 10.00 seconds under dark skies and a steady downpour at Toronto's Varsity Stadium.

COYOTE POLL A Wednesday night poll of 1013 Canadians by NRG Research Group found that 56 per cent of respondents think that moving the Phoenix Coyotes to Hamilton would be in the best interests of hockey. That number rises to 82 per cent among people who identify themselves as loyal hockey fans.

PETA For the second year in a row, the MerchantsAuto.com Stadium, home of the New Hampshire Fisher Cats, is No. 1 in PETA's annual ranking of the top 10 vegetarian-friendly minor-league ballparks. Nat Bailey Stadium, home to the Vancouver Canadians, made the list at No. 9. METRO NEWS SERVICES

re online metronews.ca metro

Visit metronews.ca/movies to get showtimes, watch trailers and read reviews.

Movies&Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Movies

Yes, dear? Pg 18

Ryan Reynolds reveals the naked truth about his role in The Proposal, starring alongside rom-com veteran Sanda Bullock. The Canadian actor admits, "You have to be perfectly comfortable taking your pants off around 40 or 50 crewmembers."

Movies Pg 18

The Taking of Pelham 1 2 3 is a remake frozen in time.

Music Pg 25

French pop-rock group Phoenix finally rising.

Entertainment Pg 27

New Moon star Robert Pattinson talks to Metro.

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At a glance
Imagine That ⊕⊕½, Taking of Pelham 1 2 3 ⊕⊕⊕, Away We Go ⊕⊕⊕, Departures ⊕⊕⊕⊕

Movies

⊕⊕⊕⊕⊕ A CLASSIC; ⊕⊕⊕⊕ EXCELLENT; ⊕⊕⊕ GOOD; ⊕⊕ FAIR; ⊕ POOR

Pantless, and loving it

Reynolds reveals the naked truth about The Proposal

Movie **feature**

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

With the amount of attention Ryan Reynolds is getting for his much-talked about nude scene in The Proposal, you'd think the Canadian actor would be getting annoyed with all the questions.

"No, I'm happy to talk about it," admitted Reynolds during a stop in Toronto to discuss his latest movie (in theatres next Friday). "It's definitely something that when people see the film, they take away and talk about it over and over again so I'm happy to bring it up."

For those uneducated about the film's said sequence, lets just say it involves Reynolds and co-star Sandra Bullock literally running headlong into each other fully undressed. As Reynolds says, "It's not a quick little flash or anything like that — you have to be perfectly comfortable taking your pants off around 40 or 50 crew members."

Lucky for Reynolds, his nine year acquaintanceship with Bullock may have eased the awkwardness just as it aided in establishing chemistry between the stars. After all, in The Proposal, Reynolds plays overworked assistant to Bullock's bothersome book editor — that is, until her Canadian visa expires and she forces him to marry her in order to avoid being deported.

Ryan Reynolds is not shy about dishing on his much-talked nude scene in The Proposal.

If that sounds like a pushy premise for a romantic-comedy, it may be because it shouldn't be regarded as such.

"When we were making this, we didn't really feel like we were making a romantic-comedy," said Reynolds. "It's more of a comedy to us. We were just going for laughs first and the romance was just kind of in there."

With the focus centred on laughs, making the movie became a surprisingly relaxed affair and the frivolity seems evident on-screen. For Reynolds — who has previously criticized that the two greatest moments in filmmaking are when you first get a job and the moment you finish a movie — The Proposal may have even altered his outlook.

"A movie like this kind of changed my whole perspective on what filmmaking to be just because it was so much fun to shoot and typically that doesn't translate onto the screen," said Reynolds. "In this movie, it did in spades and I think it's kind of forced me to re-frame that idea a little bit."

Whether that means more movies with a pantless Ryan Reynolds — only time will tell.

On the web

- For movie trailers, photos and screen times, or to buy tickets, visit metronews.ca/movies.

Eddie Murphy returns to daddy-mode in Imagine That.

Imagine saved by its heart

Imagine **That**

Director: Karey Kirkpatrick
Stars: Eddie Murphy, Yara Shahidi
Classification: G
Rating: ⊕⊕½

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

REVIEW Just when you thought Eddie Murphy's appeal as a dim-witted daddy had long expired, here comes Imagine That — a film that manages to capitalize on either a slight improvement on the actor's overbearing skill-set or a lowered expectation from moviegoers. Maybe a bit of both.

In the film, Murphy plays Evan, a divorced dad who dedicates most of his time advising wealthy financial clients. So, just as the workaholic is about to be compete for a promotion, it proves prosperous that he discovers the inseparable, prophetic blanket his neglected daughter (Yara Shahidi) owns.

As he begins to share playful rituals with young Olivia to awaken the blanket's hidden prognosticating imaginary characters, Evan earns his daughter's affection. That is, until selfishness complicates the relationship and he faces a valuable lesson about balancing work and family.

As transparent as that sugary storyline may be, Imagine That is undeniably huge on heart and a sharper-than-expected script captures an earnestness without it feeling like a ten-pound bag of beets being dumped over your head.

Imagine That may be one of Murphy's better forays into the family genre but one has to wonder if he's getting as tired of making cutesy G-rated fluff as audiences must be seeing him star in it.

Pelham 1 2 3 feels frozen in time

The Taking of **Pelham 1 2 3**

Director: Tony Scott
Stars: Denzel Washington, John Travolta
Classification: 14A
Rating: ⊕⊕⊕

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

REVIEW The Taking of Pelham 1 2 3, an update on the 1974 Walter Matthau/Robert Shaw subway heist caper, is really just an excuse for director Tony Scott to try out his jittery camerawork and seizure-inducing editing on the New York City subway system.

At one point, a character remarks on how beautiful the city is. We have to take his word for it, since the camera never slows down long enough for us to make it out.

Luckily, Scott brought along his favourite leading actor, Denzel Washington (this is their fourth collaboration), whose performance as a schlub of an MTA dispatcher in over his head dealing with a murderous hijacker (John Travolta). Washington does a lot without much to work with, disappearing into a character painfully testing the limits of his abilities. The bad news for Washington is who he's sparring with: Travolta's radicalized white-collar criminal, subtly named Ryder.

Travolta has played some great over-the-top villains in the past. Unfortunately, his agro shtick here hews closer to Battlefield Earth than Face/Off. Maybe it's the hastily drawn neck tattoos or the oddly vitriolic dislike of Italian-Americans, but he nearly devours the entire hijacked subway car with his scenery-chewing.

John Travolta plays a murderous hijacker in The Taking of Pelham 1 2 3.

Surrounding Washington and Travolta's extended dialogue are some pretty ridiculous plot points, including a video-chat-happy girlfriend picking the worst possible time to harangue her hostage boyfriend via his Wi-Fi-enabled laptop hidden on the subway car floor.

And when the ransom delivery car's mad dash through Manhattan comes to a crashing halt, James Gandolfini's mayor wonders aloud why no one thought to use a helicopter. The problem is, it's a valid question, and the filmmakers don't excuse themselves by simply having the mayor raise it.

Other details irk, like financial reporters freaking out over the pre-credit-crunch Dow dropping all the way down to 12,000. Add in the assaulting use of Jay-Z's 99 Problems over the opening credits and this remake feels frozen in time — two years ago, to be exact — which is odd for a modernization.

- For Taking of Pelham 1 2 3 photos, a trailer, and screen times, or to buy tickets, visit metronews.ca/movies.

Armstrong film moves ahead
Looks like the long-gestating biopic of ace cyclist Lance Armstrong might be about to move up through the gears, after Gary Ross came on board to write the screenplay. Ross wrote and directed Seabiscuit. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Movies

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Movie **morsels**

17 Again
●●●

REVIEW In his first major starring role outside the High School Musical franchise, Zac Efron is looking to prove that he's more than just a pretty face, that he can carry a movie. And he very well might be able to, if the movie in question didn't spend so much time trying to make that point. There's a certain "Hey look, he's doing it!" aspect to 17 Again that can get in the way of the movie itself. 17 Again follows Mike O'Donnell (played as an adult by Matthew Perry), who, through a bit of hocus pocus, is transformed back to his 17-year-old self (Efron), only it's still present day, so suddenly he's going to high school with his teenage children.
Ned Ehrbar/Metro World

Angels & Demons
●●½

REVIEW Harvard Professor Robert Langdon (Tom Hanks) is back in action. Three years after he uncovered the complicated personal life of Jesus Christ in Da Vinci Code he's once again using his knowledge of symbology to unravel the mystery of a secret brotherhood called the Illuminati and prevent a terrorist act against the Vatican. What's more, he'll do it all in just one night. Sounds thrilling, yes? Unfortunately it isn't.
Richard Crouse/Metro Canada

Dance Flick
●●●

REVIEW You have to worry about a movie that begins with a thug in a dance-battle showing off by shoving his head up his own behind. Surprisingly in Dance Flick, that leading gag is actually deceptive. The latest offering in the oversaturated market of spoof-comedies (a la Epic Movie, Date Movie, etc.), Dance Flick definitely has plenty of crass material about obesity and flatulence but it also rises to the monumental challenge of trying to scrape something original out of a horribly-flogged dead horse.
Steve Gow/Metro Canada

Fighting
●●

REVIEW You wouldn't assume from its title that Fighting has surprisingly little conflict. I'm not talking about drag-down, split-lip knuckledusters. Oh, there's plenty of that. But in-between those striking sequences, Fighting is flat-out stagnant. Directed by punk musician-turned-filmmaker Dito Montiel, Fighting tells the story of street-wise Shawn (Channing Tatum), a money-hungry hustler (with a seeming inability to form facial expressions) who discovers the world of underground fist-fighting through a con man named Harvey (Terrence Howard).
Steve Gow/Metro Canada

Miss March
●

REVIEW An unoriginal and gratingly unfunny road-trip movie, Miss March simply tells the story of a high-school virgin (Cregger) who, after slipping into a ridiculous four-year coma, is awakened by his baseball bat-wielding buddy (Moore). Discovering his teenage sweetheart has since become a Playboy bunny, the pals hit the highway in an attempt to track down the oh-so lucky gal at Hugh Hefner's mansion. Yawn.
Steve Gow/Metro Canada

Monsters vs. Aliens
●●●●

REVIEW There's something refreshing about a movie with a title that tells you everything you need to know about it. Part Plan 9 from Outer Space, part The Dirty Dozen, Monsters vs. Aliens is all about good, old-fashioned escapism. Just don't pay too close attention to the plot holes and lazy exposition. The movie has an all-star cast, the kind only possible in an animated movie, led by Reese Witherspoon as Susan, a bride-to-be who grows to five stories tall after being walloped by a radioactive meteor on her wedding day.
Ned Ehrbar/Metro World

Night at the Museum 2: Battle of the Smithsonian
●●½

REVIEW In 2006's Night at the Museum, technology allowed Ben Stiller to realistically wrestle all sorts of taxidermy in New York's Museum of Natural History. Now in Battle of the Smithsonian, Stiller goes to Washington D.C. and pretty much does the same thing. Well, almost. He may have gone from security guard to shilling dodgy products (like the unloseable key ring) on TV, but Larry Daley (Stiller) is still drawn back to the museum only to discover his nocturnal pals being carted off to the Smithsonian for storage.
Steve Gow/Metro Canada

Star Trek
●●●●

REVIEW In what could easily have been Star Trek: The College Years, the film brings together the crew of the USS Enterprise for their maiden voyage to do battle with a black hole-building Romulan with a chip on his shoulder (Eric Bana, with Mike Tyson-like face tattoos). In the midst of the crisis, the filmmakers reinvigorate well-worn heroes Kirk (Chris Pine) and Spock (Zachary Quinto) by sprinkling on liberal amounts of daddy issues.
Ned Ehrbar/Metro Canada

Terminator Salvation
●●

REVIEW In this unwanted and perfunctory prequel/sequel slog, the robot apocalypse's chief adversary, resistance leader John Connor (Christian Bale) is trying to find his would be teenage father Kyle Reese (Anton Yelchin) before the evil cybernetic empire called Skynet erases him, thus eliminating Connor's existence. Confused? Not as confused as prisoner Marcus Wright (Sam Worthington) who spends much of the movie stumbling about the desert.
Chris Alexander/Metro Canada

Fox taking over Buffy?
The rumour in Hollywood is that Sarah Michelle Gellar could be passing her sharpened stakes to Megan Fox in an updated version of the Buffy the Vampire Slayer movie. EONLINE.COM

Movies

A CLASSIC; EXCELLENT; GOOD; FAIR; POOR

Away We Go too sweet

Away we Go
Director: Sam Mendes
Stars: John Krasinski, Maya Rudolph
Classification: STC
Rating:

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

John Krasinski and Maya Rudolph play a couple in search of a home in Away We Go.

Away We Go is a sweet little film nearly undone by its pleasantness. Following a young couple (John Krasinski and Maya Rudolph) expecting their child, the film forgets to give its leads anything to do except react to the world around them.

Krasinski puts his inherent likeability to good use, but it's tough distinguish his Burt here from his Jim on The Office, except that Burt is more of a nerd and has a beard. The real revelation here is Rudolph, whose comic chops are well-documented. But as the very pregnant Verona, she spreads out comfortably into a quiet performance that's surprisingly moving. With the subtlest of eyebrow raises, she carries the emotional centre of the film.

Director Sam Mendes also shines here, adding more evidence that he's adept in pretty much any genre or style thrown at him. It's as if his signature style is not having a signature style, which is refreshing.

Unfortunately, the efforts the director and his two leads are left in the lurch by the script, which hangs the story on a central relationship free of conflict. It's clear from the start that these nice, friendly people really do love each other. And by the end of the film, they seem to feel pretty much the same.

The conflict, if there is any, comes in Burt and Verona looking for a new place to call home. Their search leads to a parade of entertaining cameos, including hilarious turns by Allison Janney, Jim Gaffigan and Maggie Gyllenhaal, among others, and a surprisingly poignant meditation on modern parenting and regret by Tom Messina and Melanie Lynskey — an emotional note so strong it only makes the placidness of the main characters all the more jarring.

Into You tops U.S. DVD sales

CHARTS Home-video consumers are really into He's Just Not That Into You, the ensemble comedy that grossed $93.9 million in U.S. theatres earlier this year. The film debuted at No. 1 on the national sales and rental charts during the week ended June 7. On the Nielsen VideoScan First Alert sales chart, Into You was followed by fellow newcomer Defiance, a World War II drama with a domestic box-office gross of $28.6 million.

Underwater 3-D film lands deal

DISTRIBUTION OceanWorld 3D, an underwater film that promises to be the first feature-length nature documentary filmed and released in 3-D, has signed a distribution deal with Disneynature. In the film, viewers are guided by a sea turtle from the Great Barrier Reef in Australia to Mexico's Roca Partida Island.

REUTERS

A scene from the Oscar-winning Departures, in theatres today.

Departures rewarding

Departures
Director: Yojiro Takita
Stars: Masahiro Motoki
Classification: STC
Rating:

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

REVIEW A quiet, sentimental film exploring life and death, familial bonds and tradition, Departures seduces his audience gorgeous landscapes, meditative performances and ample doses of comedy.

Though longer than it needs to be and more than a bit predictable, the film is no less affecting. Whether or not it deserved the Oscar for best foreign language film, however, is up for debate.

Cellist Daigo (Masahiro Motoki) finds himself out on the street after the orchestra he plays for is dissolved.

At a loss, he packs up his patient wife and moves from the big city back to his small hometown, taking over his late mother's house.

Thanks to a typo in a classified ad, Daigo finds himself taking the only job he can find: Working as an "encoffiner," cleaning and dressing the recently deceased in an age-old but little-known Japanese ceremony. The job understandably takes some getting used to.

While dealing with death on a daily basis and suffering the insults and judgments of those closest to him, Daigo eventually must face the ghosts of his past.

The fact that the metaphors used in the movie are obvious or easy to predict doesn't make them any less successful, though, and Daigo's emotional journey satisfies.

The only real problem is that he and the film take so long to get to the point.

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Pirates first

Looks like The Lone Ranger may be knocking around on his horse for a bit longer, if those pesky Pirates Of The Caribbean have anything to do with it. Both films have Johnny Depp attached to star and Disney's priority is for a fourth Pirates movie. EMPIREONLINE.COM

Reel Time

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

In search of a story

Writer making film debut with Victoria Day

Filmmaker David Bezmozgis, right, on the set of Victoria Day.

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

Movie **feature**

David Bezmozgis already has a successful career as a documentary filmmaker and a fiction writer, but his dream has always been to direct a feature film.

"I went to film school with the intention that I would direct," Bezmozgis told Metro. "But it's tough to get a film produced, so I never knew if it would really happen."

After launching a literary career with his wildly successful debut (Natasha And Other Stories, which earned a variety of accolades — including The Toronto Book Award — when it was released in 2004), Bezmozgis was finally able to secure the financing for his feature film debut Victoria Day.

The film is about Ben Spektor, a typical Toronto teen from the '80s who is obsessed with hockey and classic '60s rock. The story opens with Ben lending money to a friend to buy drugs at a concert, only to see that friend disappear afterwards. We then follow Ben through the difficult week that ensues and see him come of age amongst his family and friends.

For Bezmozgis, the reason for exploring this material was to create a realistic portrayal of the adolescent experience.

"For the most part, movies made about teenagers are pretty simplistic and borderline stupid. I wanted to do something about this period of life that felt authentic," said Bezmozgis. "I think there's room in storytelling and in filmmaking to tell stories about teenagers that feel real and express the exuberance and awkwardness of teenage life."

Shot entirely on location and featuring a collection of actors cast for their look and ability rather than their recognizable names, Victoria Day continues Bezmozgis interest in telling stories routed in the simple reality of daily life.

"I just think there's so much about life that's fascinating to me," he said. "To try and render artistically on the page or on the screen those things about life that are baffling or amusing, that to me is always the challenge."

Having finally made a fictional film, Bezmozgis has no plans to abandon documentaries or the printed word. "It's just a question of story. Each story is best told in a particular medium or a certain genre. I just want to go where my stories take me."

• Victoria Day opens in theatres next Friday.

"For the most part, movies made about teenagers are pretty simplistic and borderline stupid. I wanted to do something about this period of life that felt authentic"
David Bezmozgis

Korean auteur unveils tale of Mother

FOREEIGN FILM The South Korean director whose movie about a mutant river monster became the country's biggest box office hit has a new film on what might be an even more terrifying subject — a maniacally obsessive mother. The movie from Bong Joon-ho, simply titled Mother, is about a parent with overbearing love for her son, who has been charged with murder. The film was warmly received last month when it debuted at the Cannes film festival and has quickly become one of the biggest films of the year in South Korea. "Many mothers out there may want to go out for a drink after seeing this movie," Bong told Reuters. "I wanted the story tragic."

REUTERS

Composers demand online royalties

COPYRIGHT Nathan Barr has scored horror films like Hostel and the HBO vampire series True Blood, but what really keeps the composer up at night is fear he will not get paid for music distributed online.

"True Blood is my first big show for TV and it's definitely going to see a lot of play on the Internet. It's a big issue for me," Barr, 36, told Reuters in an interview. "I don't understand why composers don't get paid if someone downloads it."

The issue is the latest digital copyright debate pitting creators in the entertainment industry on one side and studios, broadcasters, cable operators and technology companies on the other. Barr underscores how a growing number of artists — writers, actors and, yes, composers — feel they are not fairly compensated for content distributed on the Internet.

Actors and writers have aired their grievances and demanded Hollywood studios pay up. Now, composers, along with publishers, are urging Congress to change copyright law so that when music airs in an audiovisual download, it is considered a public performance that earns them royalties.

The stakes are high: Industry experts believe composers could potentially earn nearly $100 million in additional royalty payments annually as Internet viewing grows — if the law was changed to deem downloads of music in audiovisual works as public performances.

"We see audio visual as a vigorous growth area for composers, whether it's on Hulu, Netflix or iTunes, and a big issue is clarifying public performance rights as they apply to digital downloads," said Richard Conlon of Broadcast Music Inc (BMI), a performing rights group that collects royalties on behalf of artists. REUTERS

"We see audio visual as a vigorous growth area for composers, whether it's on Hulu, Netflix or iTunes, and a big issue is clarifying public performance rights as they apply to digital downloads."
Richard Conlon of Broadcast Music Inc.

Azaria a dad
Hank Azaria is celebrating after becoming a father for the first time. The funnyman's girlfriend, Katie Wright, gave birth to the couple's son Hal on Saturday. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Reel Time

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Someone please stop Eddie

Eddie Murphy infuriates me. It hasn't always been that way. Twenty years ago his movies put a broad grin on my face. I loved his silly giggle in Beverly Hills Cop, his version of Greatest Love of All in Coming to America, and the "My mother was like Clint Eastwood with a shoe..." routine from Delirious is one of the funniest monologues ever, but that was when Eddie and I were both much younger.

Now an Eddie Murphy movie is as welcome as a case of gingivitis. That makes me angry. He may be the biggest, most talented star in Hollywood who consistently makes the worst movies. Don't get me wrong, nobody hits a home run every time, but Murphy's recent batting average is worse than most.

He's never been consistent, but in the old days for every stinker like Vampire in Brooklyn he'd make two others that were drop dead funny. Of late though, he's been stuck in Vampire in Brooklyn mode, trying to suck laughs out of increasingly thin scripts.

Let's look at the good, the bad and the ugly on Murphy's filmography.

THE GOOD: In Dreamgirls Murphy gives the kind of performance that he's only hinted at in other films. As R&B singer James (Thunder) Early — imagine 1966-era James Brown — he blows the doors off, digging deep and creating a memorable character who is as magnetic as he is repulsive.

THE BAD: Haunted Mansion. It's a comedy! No! It's a mystery! Nope, it's a love story, a ghostly tale and an adventure story. It's all of those things and less. Mostly it's a big screen ad for a Disney theme park ride.

Eddie Muphy's cinematic nadir in Norbit may have cost him an Oscar for Dreamgirls, columnist Richard Crouse says.

THE UGLY: With so many to choose from — Meet Dave, The Adventures of Pluto Nash, for example — it's hard to decide but I'll pick Norbit because it's the movie that cost Eddie his Oscar. He was nominated for Dreamgirls but had the misfortune to have Norbit open in theatres the week Academy voters were casting their ballots. Any goodwill he accumulated with Dreamgirls evaporated when Oscar tastemakers got a load of him dressed as an aggressive 300 pound woman and the award went elsewhere.

"He may be the biggest, most talented star in Hollywood who consistently makes the worst movies ... nobody hits a home run every time but Murphy's recent batting average is worse than most."

The worst part is, I think he knows the movies stink. He recently told Extra "I have close to fifty movies and it's like, why am I in the movies? I've done that part now."

Why indeed Eddie, why indeed.

Richard Crouse's Movie Show can be seen every Sunday at 6:30 p.m. on the E! Channel; mrchaos33@hotmail.com.

Knightley, Farrell join London drama

CAST Keira Knightley and Colin Farrell have joined the cast of the drama London Boulevard, the directorial debut of William Monahan, the Oscar-winning screenwriter of The Departed.

The duo join David Thewlis, Anna Friel, Ben Chaplin and Ray Winstone in the film, which Monahan adapted from author Ken Bruen's novel. The movie centres on a London criminal who is newly released from prison and becomes involved with a reclusive young actress.

The Familiars up for screen time

RIGHTS Sony Pictures Animation has picked up the rights to The Familiars, an upcoming children's fantasy book series written by Adam Jay Epstein and Andrew Jacobson. The first book follows three young wizard apprentices who get whisked away to an evil kingdom by a nefarious queen. REUTERS

Screen Times

This week's new releases are highlighted in pink.

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., JUNE 12 TO THURS., JUNE 18. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

VANCOUVER

OMNIMAX THEATRE SCIENCE WORLD
1455 Quebec St., 604-443-7443

Beavers (STC) Fri-Thu 12-2:05-4 Fri 7:30
Extra Large Shorts (STC) Sat 7:30
Journey Into Amazing Caves (STC) Sat-Sun 5
Roving Mars (G) Fri-Thu 1
Van Gogh: Brush With Genius (STC) Fri-Thu 11-3 Fri-Sat

CN IMAX THEATRE
201-999 Canada Place, 604-682-4629

Alaska: Spirit of the Wild (STC) Fri-Thu 6
Grand Canyon Adventure: River at Risk in 3D (STC) Fri 2-4-8 Sat-Thu 12-2-4-8
U2 3D (G) Fri-Sun 9
Under the Sea 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1-3-5-7

DUNBAR THEATRE
4555 Dunbar Street, 604-222-2991

The Hangover (18A) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 4-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 7-9:30

FIFTH AVENUE CINEMAS
2110 Burrard Street, 604-734-7469

Away We Go (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Thu 2:15-4:40-7:30-9:40
The Brothers Bloom (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Tue 1:30-4:20-7:20-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital Wed 1:30-4:20-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital Thu 1:30-4:20-7:20-9:45
Easy Virtue (G) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Thu 2-4:30-7-9:10
My Life in Ruins (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Thu 1:45-4:10-7:10-9:20
Star Trek (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Sun 1:15-4-6:50-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital Mon 1:15-4-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital Tue-Thu 1:15-4-6:50-9:30

GRANVILLE
855 Granville St., 604-684-4000

BFF (Best Friends Forever) (Filipino) (PG) Fri 7:05-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:30-7:05-9:30 Mon-Thu 6:05-8:30
Dance Flick (14A) Fri 6:55-9:25 Sat-Sun 1:25-4:20-6:55-9:25 Mon-Thu 5:55-8:25
Every Little Step (PG) Fri 7:15-9:45 Sat-Sun 1:10-4:15-7:15-9:45 Mon-Thu 6:15-8:45
Ghosts of Girlfriends Past (PG) Fri 7:10-9:50 Sat-Sun 1:15-4:05-7:10-9:50 Mon-Thu 6:10-8:50
Rudo y Cursi (14A) Fri 7:20-9:55 Sat-Sun 1-4:25-7:20-9:55 Mon-Thu 6:20-8:55
The Soloist (PG) Fri 7-9:40 Sat-Sun 1:20-4:10-7-9:40 Mon-Thu 6-8:40
State of Play (PG) Fri 6:50-9:35 Sat-Sun 1:05-4-6:50-9:35 Mon-Thu 5:50-8:35

HOLLYWOOD THEATRE
3123 W. Broadway, 604-738-3211

Knowing (14A) Fri 7:30 Sat-Sun 1:30-7:30 Mon-Thu 7:30
Waltz With Bashir (R) Fri 9:40 Sat-Sun 3:40-9:40 Mon-Thu 9:40

OAKRIDGE
650 West 41st Ave., 604-263-1944

The Hangover (18A) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Fri 7:30-10 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Sat-Sun 1:30-4-7:30-10 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Mon-Thu 7:30-10
Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (PG) Fri 6:30-9 Sat-Sun 12:30-3-6:30-9 Mon-Thu 6:30-9
Up (G) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 1-3:30-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 7-9:30

PACIFIC CINÉMATHÈQUE
1131 Howe Street, 604-688-3456

Beyond the Sublime: Selected Film Works of Chris Welsby (STC) Mon 7:30
Girl With a Suitcase (STC) Sun 7
I Knew Her Well (STC) Sat 7:15 Thu 9:25
Prodigal Sons (STC) Wed 7:30
La Strada (STC) Fri 7:15 Sat 9:30 Sun 4:30
Two Women (STC) Fri 9:20
Vertigo (STC) Sat 12 Sun 9 Tue 1 Thu 7

PARK THEATRE
3440 Cambie Street, 604-876-2747

Beau Fest (STC) A.M. Sun 10
Departures (G) Fri 4-7-9:40 Sat-Sun 1-4-7-9:40 Mon-Thu 4-7-9:40

RIDGE THEATRE
3131 Arbutus Street, 604-738-6311

Angels & Demons (14A) Fri 4-7-9:40 Sat-Sun 1:15-4-7-9:40 Mon-Tue 4-7-9:40 Wed 4-9:40 Thu 4-7-9:40

RIO ON BROADWAY
1660 E. Broadway, 604-878-Film

Enter the Dragon (STC) Fri 12
Land of the Lost (PG) Fri 7-9:15 Sat-Sun 4:20-7-9:15 Mon-Thu 7-9:15
Return of the Dragon (STC) Fri

SCOTIABANK THEATRE
900 Burrard St., 604-630-1407

Angels & Demons (14A) Fri-Thu 12:10-3:20-6:30-9:45
God Rocks! Live in Miami - The HD Experience (STC) Sat 10-1
The Metropolitan Opera: The Audition Live Encore (STC) Mon 7
The Proposal (PG) Sat 7
Star Trek (PG) Fri-Sun 12:20-12:50-3:50-4:10-7:10-7:40-10:10-10:40 Mon 12:20-12:50-3:50-4:10-7:10-7:40-10:10-10:40 Tue 12:20-12:50-3:50-4:10-7:10-7:40-10:10-10:40 Wed 12:20-12:50-3:50-4:10-7:10-7:40-10:10-10:40 Thu 12:20-12:50-3:50-4:10-7:10-7:40-10:10-10:40
The Taking of Pelham 123 (14A) No Passes Fri 12:40-3:40-7:9:50 No Passes Sat 1:10-3:40-7:9:50 No Passes Sun 12:40-3:40-7:9:50 No Passes Mon 12:40-3:40-7:30-9:50 No Passes Tue-Thu 12:40-3:40-7:9:50 No Passes Fri 1:10-4:7:30-10:20 No Passes Sat 12:40-4:7:30-10:20 No Passes Sun 1:10-4:7:30-10:20 No Passes Mon 1:10-4:7:10:20 No Passes Tue-Thu 1:10-4:7:30-10:20
Terminator Salvation (14A) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:10-6:40-9:40
Up in Disney Digital 3D (G) Fri 11:30-12-2-3:30-4:40-6:50-7:20-9:30-10 Sat 11:15-11:30-1:40-2-4:20-4:40-7:20-9:30-10 Sun 11:15-11:30-1:40-2-4:20-4:40-6:50-7:20-9:30-10 Mon-Thu 11:30-12-2-3:30-4:40-6:50-7:20-9:30-10
X-Men Origins: Wolverine (14A) Fri 1:20-4:20-7:50-10:30 Sat 4:20-7:50-10:30 Sun 1:20-4:20-7:50-10:30

TINSELTOWN
International Village, 88 West Pender, 3rd floor, 604-806-0799

Away We Go (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:05-2:25-4:50-7:20-9:50
Drag Me to Hell (14A) Fri-Wed 12:10-2:40-5:10-6:25-7:40-8:55-10:10 Thu 12:10-1:25-2:40-3:55-5:10-6:25-7:40-8:55-10:10
Easy Virtue (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:25-2:45-5:05-7:35-9:55
The Hangover (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:10-2-3:40-4:30-6:10-7:8:40-9:30 No Passes Fri-Thu 12:20-2:50-5:20-7:50-10:20
Imagine That (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:45-4:25-7:05-9:40
Land of the Lost (PG) No Passes Fri-Wed 12-12:50-1:40-2:30-3:20-4:10-5-6:40-7:30-9:10-10 No Passes Thu 12-1:40-2:30-4:10-5-6:40-7:30-9:10-10
My Life in Ruins (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:15-2:35-4:55-7:15-9:35
Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (PG) Fri-Tue 2:10-4:40-7:10-9:45 Wed 2:10-4:40-9:45 Thu 2:10-4:40-7:10-9:45

VANCITY THEATRE
Vancouver International Film Centre
1181 Seymour St., 604-683-Film

Touched by Tibet (STC) Fri 6:30-8:15 Sat 4:45-6:30-8 Sun 4:45-6:30-8:30 Mon 6:30-8

VAN EAST CINEMA
2290 Commercial Drive, 604-251-1313

Angels & Demons (14A) Fri 6:40-9:15 Sat-Sun 4-6:40-9:15 Mon-Thu 6:40-9:15

NORTH SHORE

ESPLANADE 6
200 West Esplanade, 604-983-2762

The Hangover (18A) No Passes Fri 7:10-9:40 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:10-3:40-7:10-9:40 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:40
Imagine That (G) Fri 6:50-9:15 Sat-Sun 1-4:20-6:50-9:15 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:15
Star Trek (PG) Fri 6:40-9:35 Sat-Sun 1:05-3:50-6:40-9:35 Mon-Thu 6:40-9:35
The Taking of Pelham 123 (14A) No Passes Fri 7:20-9:50 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:30-4:10-7:20-9:50 No Passes Mon-Thu 7:20-9:50
Terminator Salvation (14A) Fri-Thu 7:25-9:55
Up (G) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:20-4-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 12:45-3:30

PARK & TILFORD
333 Brooksbank Ave., 604-985-3911

Angels & Demons (14A) Fri 6:30-9:30 Sat-Sun 12-3:10-6:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 6:30-9:30 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Drag Me to Hell (14A) Fri 6:45-9:35 Sat 3-6:45-9:35 Sun 12:10-3-6:45-9:35 Mon 9:45 Tue-Thu 6:45-9:35
Easy Virtue (G) Fri 7-9:50 Sat-Sun 12:30-3:20-7-9:50 Mon-Thu 7-9:50 Star & Strollers Thu 1
God Rocks! Live in Miami - The HD Experience (STC) Sat 10-1
Land of the Lost (PG) Fri 7:10-10 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:50-7:10-10 Mon-Thu 7:10-10
The Metropolitan Opera: The Audition Live Encore (STC) Mon 7
My Life in Ruins (PG) Fri 6:50-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:20-3:40-6:50-9:40 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:40
Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (PG) Fri 6:40-9:20 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:30-6:40-9:20 Mon-Thu 6:40-9:20

RICHMOND

RICHMOND CENTRE 6
6551 #3 Road, 604-273-7173

The Hangover (18A) No Passes Fri 4:40-7:20-9:55 No Passes Sat 1:55-4:40-7:20-9:55 No Passes Sun 1:55-4:40-7:20 No Passes Mon-Thu 4:40-7:20
Imagine That (G) Fri 4:20-7:05-9:35 Sat 1:35-4:20-7:05-9:35 Sun 1:35-4:20-7:05 Mon-Thu 4:20-7:05
Land of the Lost (PG) Fri 4:30-7:10-9:40 Sat 1:45-4:30-7:10-9:40 Sun 1:45-4:30-7:10 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:10
Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (PG) Fri 4:35-7:15-9:50 Sat 1:50-4:35-7:15-9:50 Sun 1:50-4:35-7:15 Mon-Thu 4:35-7:15
Terminator Salvation (14A) Fri 4:15-7:9:45 Sat 1:30-4:15-7:9:45 Sun 1:30-4:15-7 Mon-Thu 4:15-7
Up (G) Fri 4:25-6:55-9:30 Sat 1:40-4:25-6:55-9:30 Sun 1:40-4:25-6:55 Mon-Thu 4:25-6:55

SILVERCITY RIVERPORT
14211 Entertainment Way, 604-272-7280

Angels & Demons (14A) Fri-Thu 11:50-3:15-6:55-10:15
Drag Me to Hell (14A) Fri-Thu 1:45-4:35-7:50-10:30
God Rocks! Live in Miami - The HD Experience (STC) Sat 10-1
The Hangover (18A) No Passes Fri 12:05-2:45-5:15-7:55-10:40 No Passes Sat 12:05-3:10-5:30-7:55-10:40 No Passes Sun-Thu 12:05-2:45-5:15-7:55-10:40 No Passes Fri-Thu 11:40-2:20-4:50-7:35-10:20
Imagine That (G) Fri-Wed 12:30-4:7:25-10:15 Thu 4:7:25-10:15 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Land of the Lost (PG) Fri-Thu 12:35-1:30-3:20-4:15-6:35-7:25-9:40-10:10
The Metropolitan Opera: The Audition Live Encore (STC) Mon 7
My Life in Ruins (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:05-7:05-10:05
Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (PG) Fri-Thu 11:45-3:05-6:40-9:35
Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian: The IMAX Experience (PG) Fri-Thu 1-4-7-9:45
The Proposal (PG) Sat 7
Star Trek (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:55-7:10-10:25
The Taking of Pelham 123 (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12-1-3-4-6:45-7:30-9:45-10:35
Terminator Salvation (14A) Fri-Sun 12:10-12:50-3:10-4:20-7:7:40-9:55-10:35 Mon 12:10-12:50-3:10-4:20-7:40-9:55-10:35 Tue-Thu 12:10-12:50-3:10-4:20-7:7:40-9:55-10:35
Up (G) Fri 1:05-4:10-7:15-10 Sat 4:10-7:15-10 Sun-Wed 1:05-4:10-7:15-10 Thu 4:10-7:15-10 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Up in Disney Digital 3D (G) Fri-Thu 11:35-2:15-5-7:45-10:30
X-Men Origins: Wolverine (14A) Fri-Thu 12:20-3:45-7:20-10:45

BURNABY

DOLPHIN CINEMAS
4555 E. Hastings St., 604-293-0332

Land of the Lost (PG) Fri 5-7-9 Sat-Sun 1-3-5-7-9 Mon-Thu 5-7-9
Up (G) Fri 5-7-9 Sat-Sun 1-3-5-7-9 Mon-Thu 5-7-9

SILVERCITY METROPOLIS
4700 Kingsway Ave., 604-435-7474

Angels & Demons (14A) Fri-Sun 11:35-3:10-6:30-10:10 Mon 11:35-3:10-10:10 Tue-Thu 11:35-3:10-6:30-10:10
Drag Me to Hell (14A) Fri-Thu 12:25-3:30-6:50-10:15
The Hangover (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:45-2:30-5:10-8:10-10:45
Land of the Lost (PG) Fri-Thu 12:55-4:20-7:10-9:40
The Metropolitan Opera: The Audition Live Encore (STC) Mon 7
Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (PG) Fri-Thu 12:05-3:40-6:40-10:10
Star Trek (PG) Fri-Thu 12:15-4:10-7:50-10:40
The Taking of Pelham 123 (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:35-3:50-7:20-10:20
Terminator Salvation (14A) Fri-Thu 12:45-4-7:40-10:30
Up in Disney Digital 3D (G) Fri-Thu 11:25-11:55-2:2:20-4:30-5:7:7:30-9:30-9:50

STATION SQUARE
220-6200 McKay Ave., 604-434-7711

17 Again (PG) Fri 4:55-7:25-9:45 Sat 2-4:55-7:25-9:45 Sun 2-4:55-7:25 Mon-Thu 4:55-7:25
Angels & Demons (14A) Fri 4:30-7:15-10 Sat 1:45-4:30-7:15-10 Sun 1:45-4:30-7:15 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:15
Dance Flick (14A) Fri 5-7-9:35 Sat 2:15-5-7-9:35 Sun 2:15-5-7 Mon-Thu 5-7
Ghosts of Girlfriends Past (PG) Fri 4:40-7:05-10 Sat 1:55-4:40-7:05-10 Sun 1:55-4:40-7:05 Mon-Thu 4:40-7:05
Imagine That (G) Fri 4:45-7:30-9:55 Sat 2:10-4:45-7:30-9:55 Sun 2:10-4:45-7:30 Mon-Thu 4:45-7:30
Star Trek (PG) Fri 4:35-7:10-9:50 Sat 1:50-4:35-7:10-9:50 Sun 1:50-4:35-7:10 Mon-Thu 4:35-7:10
X-Men Origins: Wolverine (14A) Fri 4:50-7:15-9:40 Sat 2:05-4:50-7:15-9:40 Sun 2:05-4:50-7:15 Mon-Thu 4:50-7:15

NEW WEST/ COQUITLAM

SILVERCITY COQUITLAM
170 Schoolhouse Street, 604-523-2911

Angels & Demons (14A) Fri-Thu 11:55-3:40-7:05-10:10
The Brothers Bloom (PG) Fri-Tue 12:25-3:45-7:30-10:25 Wed 3:45-7:30-10:25 Thu 12:25-3:45-7:30-10:25 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Drag Me to Hell (14A) Fri-Thu 1:50-4:45-7:50-10:45
God Rocks! Live in Miami - The HD Experience (STC) Sat 10-1
The Hangover (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12-1:05-2:35-4:15-5:10-7:05-8:05-9:55-10:50
Imagine That (G) Fri-Sun 12:50-4:05-7:30-10:05 Mon 12:50-4:05-7:25-10:05 Tue 12:50-4:05-7:30-10:05 Wed 4:05-7:30-10:05 Thu 12:50-4:05-7:30-10:05 Wed 1
Land of the Lost (PG) Fri-Thu 11:35-12:40-2:10-3:35-4:50-6:50-7:30-9:40-10:05
The Metropolitan Opera: The Audition Live Encore (STC) Mon 7
My Life in Ruins (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:40-6:55-9:55
Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (PG) Fri-Thu 12:10-3:40-6:55-9:55 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 1:05-4:05-6:45-9:55
Star Trek (PG) Fri-Sun 12:15-1-4:20-4:25-7:25-7:40-10:20-10:30 Mon 12:15-1-4:20-4:25-7:25-10:20-10:30 Tue-Thu 12:15-1-4:20-4:25-7:25-7:40-10:20-10:30
The Taking of Pelham 123 (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-1:30-4-4:30-7:7:55-10-10:55
Terminator Salvation (14A) Fri 12:35-1:35-3:25-4:35-7:10-7:45-10:10-10:45 Sat 12:35-3:25-4:35-7:10-7:45-10:10-10:45 Sun-Thu 12:35-1:35-3:25-4:35-7:10-7:45-10:10-10:45
Up (G) Fri 11:45-2:35-5:15-8:05-10:40 Sat 11:15-1:45-4:20-10:40 Sun-Thu 11:45-2:35-5:15-8:05-10:40
Up in Disney Digital 3D (G) Fri-Thu 11:30-12:45-2:15-3:30-4:55-6:45-7:35-9:45-10:15
X-Men Origins: Wolverine (14A) Fri-Thu 12:20-4:10-7:45-10:35

SURREY/WHITE ROCK/LANGLEY

CLOVA
5732-176th St., Surrey, 604-541-9527

Hannah Montana: The Movie (G) Sat-Sun 1:30
Star Trek (PG) Fri-Thu 7
Terminator Salvation (14A) Fri-Thu 9:25

HOLLYWOOD 3 CINEMA
7125-138th St., Surrey, 604-592-4441

17 Again (PG) Fri 6:30 Sat-Sun 2:20-6:30 Mon-Thu 6:30
Earth (G) Fri 6:30 Sat-Sun 12:15-6:30 Mon-Thu 6:30
Ghosts of Girlfriends Past (PG) Fri-Thu 8:30
Hannah Montana: The Movie (G) Fri 4:30 Sat-Sun 2:30-4:30 Mon-Thu 4:30
Monsters vs. Aliens (G) Fri 4:30 Sat-Sun 12:15-4:30 Mon-Thu 4:30
The Soloist (PG) Fri-Thu 8:20
X-Men Origins: Wolverine (14A) Fri 4:30-6:40-8:45 Sat-Sun 12:15-2:25-4:30-6:40-8:45 Mon-Thu 4:30-6:40-8:45

STRAWBERRY HILL GRANDE
12161-72nd Ave, Surrey, 604-501-9400

Angels & Demons (14A) Fri-Thu 12:20-3:35-6:55-10:05
Drag Me to Hell (14A) Fri 12:40-3:45-6:50-9:40 Sat 3:45-6:50-9:40 Sun-Thu 12:40-3:45-6:50-9:40
God Rocks! Live in Miami - The HD Experience (STC) Sat 10-1
The Hangover (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:10-2:50-5:20-7:50-10:30
Imagine That (G) Fri-Tue 12:45-3:40-7:9:45 Wed 3:40-7:9:45 Thu 12:45-3:40-7:9:45 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Land of the Lost (PG) Fri-Thu 12:05-2:40-5:10-7:40-10:20
Munde U.K. De (Punjabi w/e.s.t.) (G) Fri-Thu 12:35-4:10-7:35
Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (PG) Fri-Thu 12:55-4:7:25-9:55
Star Trek (PG) Fri-Thu 12:25-3:55-7:10-10:10
The Taking of Pelham 123 (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:50-3:50-7:20-10:15
Terminator Salvation (14A) Fri-Thu 12:15-3:30-7:05-9:50
Up (G) Fri-Tue 12:30-3:5:30-8-10:25 Wed 5:30-8-10:25 Thu 12:30-3-5:30-8-10:25 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Up in Disney Digital 3D (G) Fri-Thu 12-2:30-5-7:30-10

STUDIO 12 GUILDFORD
15051-101st Ave, Surrey, 604-581-1176

Angels & Demons (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:45-3:55-7:05-10:15
Drag Me to Hell (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:25-4:25-7:10-10:25
The Hangover (18A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Sun 1:40-4:40-7:30-10:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1:40-4:40-7:30-10:30
Imagine That (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Wed 12:55-4:6:40-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 4:6:40-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 1
Smithsonian (PG) Fri-Thu 12:10-3:55-7:20-9:55
The Proposal (PG) Sat 7
Star Trek (PG) Fri-Sun 12:15-1-4:20-4:25-7:25-7:40-10:20-10:30 Mon 12:15-1-4:20-4:25-7:25-10:20-10:30 Tue-Thu 12:15-1-4:20-4:25-7:25-7:40-10:20-10:30
The Taking of Pelham 123 (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-1:30-4-4:30-7:7:55-10-10:55
Terminator Salvation (14A) Fri 12:35-1:35-3:25-4:35-7:10-7:45-10:10-10:45 Sat 12:35-3:25-4:35-7:10-7:45-10:10-10:45 Sun-Thu 12:35-1:35-3:25-4:35-7:10-7:45-10:10-10:45
Up (G) Fri 11:45-2:35-5:15-8:05-10:40 Sat 11:15-1:45-4:20-10:40 Sun-Thu 11:45-2:35-5:15-8:05-10:40
Up in Disney Digital 3D (G) Fri-Thu 11:30-12:45-2:15-3:30-4:55-6:45-7:35-9:45-10:15
X-Men Origins: Wolverine (14A) Fri-Thu 12:20-4:10-7:45-10:35

RIALTO
1732-152nd St., 604-541-9527

Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (PG) Fri 7:10-9:10 Sat-Sun 2:10-7:10-9:10 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:10
The Taking of Pelham 123 (14A) Fri 7-9:05 Sat-Sun 2-7-9:05 Mon-Thu 7-9:05

CRITERION 4 WHITE ROCK
2381 King George Hwy., 604-531-7456

The Hangover (18A) Fri 7:20-9:25 Sat-Sun 2:20-7:20-9:25 Mon-Thu 7:20-9:25
Imagine That (G) Fri 7:10-9:20 Sat-Sun 2-7:10-9:20 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:20
Land of the Lost (PG) Fri 7:30-9:30 Sat-Sun 2:10-7:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 7:30-9:30
Up (G) Fri 7-9 Sat-Sun 1-3:10-7-9 Mon-Thu 7-9

COLOSSUS LANGLEY
20090-91A Ave, Langley, 604-513-8747

Angels & Demons (14A) Fri-Sun 12:10-3:35-6:55-10:15 Mon-Thu 3:35-6:55-10:15
Drag Me to Hell (14A) Fri-Sun 12:20-4:10-7:20-10:20 Mon-Thu 4:10-7:20-10:20
Ghosts of Girlfriends Past (PG) Fri-Sun 12:35-3:40-7:9:40 Mon 3:40-9:40 Tue-Thu 3:40-7-9:40
God Rocks! Live in Miami - The HD Experience (STC) Sat 10-1
The Hangover (18A) No Passes Fri-Sun 1-1:30-4:05-4:30-7:05-7:35-9:55-10:25 No Passes Mon-Thu 4:05-4:30-7:05-7:35-9:55-10:25
Imagine That (G) Fri-Sun 11:55-3:30-6:30-9:15 Mon-Tue 3:30-6:30-9:15 Wed 6:30-9:15 Thu 3:30-6:30-9:15 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 3
Land of the Lost (PG) Fri-Sun 12:05-12:55-3:30-4:15-7:7:30-10:10:30 Mon-Thu 3:30-4:15-7:7:30-10:10:30
The Metropolitan Opera: The Audition Live Encore (STC) Mon 7
My Life in Ruins (PG) Fri-Sun 12:15-4-6:50-9:50 Mon-Thu 4-6:50-9:50
Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (PG) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:35-6:35-9:20 Mon-Thu 3:35-6:35-9:20
Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian: The IMAX Experience (PG) Fri-Sun 1-4-7-9:45 Mon-Thu 4-7-9:45
The Proposal (PG) Sat 7
Star Trek (PG) Fri-Sun 11:50-3:45-7:10-10:10 Mon-Thu 3:45-7:10-10:10
The Taking of Pelham 123 (14A) No Passes Fri-Sun 11:45-12:45-3:50-4:20-6:45-7:15-9:45-10:30 No Passes Mon-Thu 3:50-4:20-6:45-7:15-9:45-10:30
Terminator Salvation (14A) Fri-Sun 1:15-4:40-7:45-10:40 Mon-Thu 4:40-7:45-10:40
Up (G) Fri 12:30-3:45-6:40-9:35 Sat 12:30-3:45-9:35 Sun 12:30-3:45-6:40-9:35 Mon-Tue 3:45-6:40-9:35 Wed 6:40-9:35 Thu 3:45-6:40-9:35 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 3
Up in Disney Digital 3D (G) Fri-Sun 11:30-12-2:05-2:40-4:45-5:15-7:25-7:55-10:05-10:35 Mon-Thu 4:45-5:15-7:25-7:55-10:05-10:35
X-Men Origins: Wolverine (14A) Fri 12:25-3:55-7:15-10:15 Sat 3:55-7:15-10:15 Sun 12:25-3:55-7:15-10:15 Mon-Thu 3:55-7:15-10:15

TWILIGHT DRIVE-IN
260th St. & Fraser Hwy.,604-856-5063

Drag Me to Hell (14A) Fri-Thu 11:45
Fast & Furious (14A) A.M. Fri-Sat 1:45
Land of the Lost (PG) Fri-Thu 9:45

Amazon.ca's top albums
1. Big Whiskey and the GrooGrux King, Dave Band Matthews Band (right); **2.** Chickenfoot, Chickenfoot; **3.** Quiet Nights, Diana Krall; **4.** 21st Century Breakdown, Green Day; **5.** Motown 50, Various. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Music

A revolution in French music

Catchy new album is helping pop-rock band Phoenix get noticed

CAM LINDSAY
for Metro Canada

Success has a funny way of finding artists.

Back in the late '90s it seemed achievable almost overnight for Parisian acts like Daft Punk and Air, who carved separate niches into pop's ample market. Phoenix was also there in the suburb of Versailles, and though the band had a unique sound — catalogue it somewhere between the Strokes, Steely Dan and the Art of Noise — the band never received any framed platinum discs.

"At the beginning it was really hard," admits frontman Thomas Mars. "I don't think we were even giving people a chance to like us because (United, the band's 2000 debut album) sounded more like commercial suicide to me. I remember being in France and everyone was confused, even by the record cover."

On Wolfgang Amadeus Phoenix — the fourth album from French pop-rock band Phoenix — the rhythms are savvier, the melodies prompter and the arrangements flawlessly constructed.

They shouldn't really blame themselves. The Frenchmen have crafted some of the most sophisticated, hummable pop music of the last decade and never changed their creative process while doing so. Mars sees each record "as a photo album that represents you at a certain time. I think we just want to make different records all the time. We don't really see any record as an upgrade."

He may see it that way, but there is an unmistakable vibrancy and progression with the fourth Phoenix album, Wolfgang Amadeus Phoenix. The rhythms are savvier, the melodies prompter and the arrangements are flawlessly constructed. And it's gotten noticed — now people are finally catching on.

"To me it's more extreme, it's also a little more futuristic," says Mars of the new album. "All of the inspirations were so different that we couldn't find a way to put them together, so it is a record that was maybe a little more painful to make. But in the end it was more satisfying because it was more like a Frankenstein. (Because of it) I think the songs of United have a chance again."

As witnessed by an appearance on Saturday Night Live back in April, Phoenix have also progressed as a live band, something Mars feels is a result of making Wolfgang Amadeus.

"It can be a struggle after an album to play it live, because sometimes we've done things that are impossible to translate," he confesses. "For the first time I think we've managed to incorporate us as a rock band and bring the studio live, which is something that took us a long time to do."

"For the first time I think we've managed to incorporate us as a rock band and bring the studio live, which is something that took us a long time to do."
Thomas Mars

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Billboard's top albums
1. Big Whiskey and the GrooGrux King, Dave Band Matthews Band; **2.** Relapse, Eminem (left); **3.** Uplifter, 311; **4.** Chickenfoot, Chickenfoot; **5.** 21st Century Breakdown, Green Day. METRO NEWS SERVICES

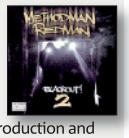
Music

Metro recommends

• Wolfgang Amadeus Phoenix, Phoenix: Dynamic indie dance-pop that fuses Strokes-like guitars, nimble keyboards and laidback vocals into a feel-good sound.

• Big Whiskey And The GrooGrux King, Dave Matthews Band: DMB sounds more celebratory, adding horn sections, raucous guitars and funky rhythms to the mix.

• Blackout! 2, Method Man & Redman: Humourous rap duo shows its flow can suit serious rhymes with old-school production and boom-bap beats.



METRO NEWS SERVICES

Fresh sounds for summer

Alexisonfire, Grizzly Bear, The Sounds among top new music picks

SoundCheck

For many parts of Canada, spring has been a bust: Long cool stretches punctuated by rain or even snow — in June! No wonder everyone is grumpy. Maybe what we need are some summer songs.

Alexisonfire: St. Catharines, Ont., noiseniks have evolved their sound away from the more screamo approach that found them fans on their first couple of records. They're still extremely heavy, but melody plays more of a role. I've heard most of Old Crows/Young Cardinals already — it's out on June 23 — and if it doesn't debut at No. 1 on the Canadian album charts, demand a recount.

Grizzly Bear: In six months, their Veckatimest album will no doubt appear on many a hipster "best-of" list. Chief songwriting bruin, Edward Droste — there is a member named Christopher Bear, by the way — grew up appreciating the more experimental sides of Brian Wilson. There's a lot of mutual appreciation going on with Radiohead, too. No wonder Thom and Co. had them open for parts of their 2008 tour. Think Elliott Smith or a less loopy Flaming Lips. Nice for those reflective moments around the campfire.

The Sounds: Perky Swedish pop-rock fronted by the extremely blond Maja Ivarsson. Since they formed in 1999, many a North American rock star (I'm looking at you, Dave Grohl!) have shown their love by sporting Sounds T-shirts. Their third album, Crossing the Rubicon, came out last week with the single No One Sleeps When I'm Awake conjuring early '80s New Wave memories of Missing Persons and even Blondie.

If Alexisonfire's new album doesn't debut at No. 1 on the Canadian album charts, demand a recount.

Spinnerette: Brody Dalle (or, as Queen of the Stone Age fans know her, Mrs. Josh Homme) finally has her post-Distillers project off the ground. We had a taste with the Ghetto Love EP just before Christmas which indicated that Brody was headed down a path similar to late-model Yeah Yeah Yeahs — which, is to say, a very good path indeed. Little known fact: Brody is a keen student of JFK conspiracy theories.

White Rabbits: Didn't bands with two drummers go out of fashion with the Doobie Brothers? Someone evidently forgot to tell this Brooklyn-based six-piece, who have just released It's Frightening, their second full album. The lead-off track, the aptly titled Percussion Gun, could lead to demerit points on your license. Old school alt-rockers will be reminded of both Adam and the Ants and Bow Wow Wow.

The Ongoing History Of New Music can be heard on stations across Canada. Read more at ongoinghistory.com and exploremusic.com

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Ellen extols Lambert's courage

Ellen DeGeneres is proud that American Idol runner-up Adam Lambert is publicly embracing his homosexuality. "I'm proud of him, and I'm happy for anyone who has the guts to actually tell the world who they are." TVGUIDE.COM

Entertainment

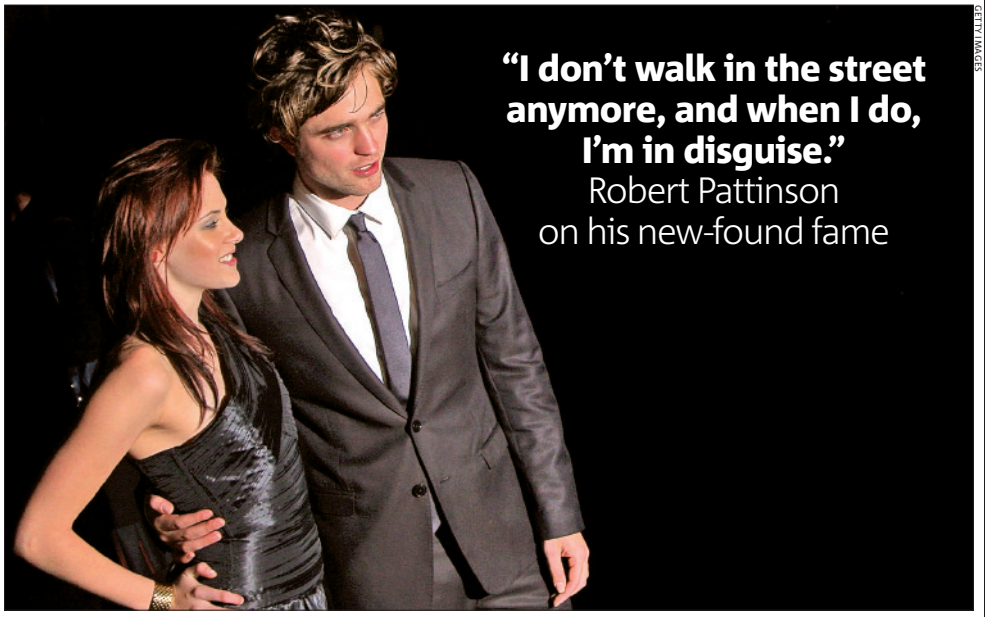
●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

New Moon's rising star

Robert Pattinson tells Metro all about his new-found fame

TALIA SOGHOMONIAN
Metro World News

Robert Pattinson melted the hearts of many when Edward Cullen first appeared on screen in Twilight. The young actor is back in New Moon, but still admits he is shocked with the phenomenon Twilight has turned into. Pattinson sat down with Metro to talk about New Moon, his own success, and his character.



GETTY IMAGES

Robert Pattinson and Kristen Stewart pose for the cameras. Pattinson talked to Metro about his the newest Twilight movie, New Moon.

Q How is the filming going?

A It's great. To be honest, I am surprised at how relaxed it is. I was really nervous before we started because there's so much expectation now. But with this team, everything seems to work really well. Everyone knows each other. It's one of the most relaxed jobs I've ever worked on. It's really strange. It's going really well so far.

Q Last time we spoke, you told me that you still walked in the street without anyone recognizing you. I'm assuming that's changed now.

A I don't walk in the street anymore, and when I do, I'm in disguise. (laughs) It's actually a relief being back at work.

Q Were you surprised that Twilight became such a phenomenon?

A It never ever fails to shock me. Even here. Yesterday, there were 300 people outside the set. It's just crazy. Every day, every single person I meet knows someone who has a very strong attachment to the books. It's very difficult to put your head around. I can go through customs at any airport in the world — every customs agent is like, 'Can I get an autograph for my daughter?' Every single time! It's crazy! I just hope it doesn't change the way I think and stuff. It hasn't so far.

Q Which is your favorite motion picture vampire of all time?

A I always liked the original Nosferatu. I watched 30 Days of Night recently. I thought it was really good. I really liked Danny Huston in it. But I wouldn't say that I was a vampire fan.

Q You must be offered a lot of roles now. How are you making your choices?

A I judge things purely on the script. I'm booked up for this year. I've been doing the most different things you can possibly imagine. Every part is so different. I can't say any of the parts I'm doing — they haven't been finalized yet. But I don't pick them in terms of genre; purely the script. If I like the script and I like the part, then that's all that matters.

Q Are there differences in your preparation to play Edward again?

A Loads of different things. I feel very familiar with the character. I'm a ghost, a figment of Bella's imagination. I'm not really playing Edward. I'm playing a kind of disrupted memory, which is really strange. I'm trying to play him as if Edward's constantly thinking that things are going to fall apart. It's this idyllic relationship on the top. I'm very, very close to the surface. He's so insecure about everything.

Q Are you going to be on the soundtrack?

A I don't think so this time. It's still early on, but there are so many people that might be on the soundtrack. The last one did so well, so loads of bands want to go on it. Bands that I would never ever have thought would be on a soundtrack I think are gong to be on it this time.

Q Was there an actor whom you idolized when you were younger?

A When I was younger, I didn't know I was going to be an actor. When I started acting, it took me about three or four years to actually think, Yeah, I'm an actor now. I guess the people who I was obsessed with were Jean-Paul Belmondo and Jack Nicholson. (But) I was more into directors.

This is the final part of Metro's exclusive New Moon series, for the whole thing, stop by: **metronews.ca**

Adoption bid for Modonna to be decided Friday

MALAWI Malawi's highest court said it would announce on Friday whether U.S. pop star Madonna could adopt a second child from the country, a spokesman said, in a case that has drawn fire from local rights groups.

Malawi's High Court ruled in April she could not adopt 4-year-old Mercy James, because the singer was not a resident of Malawi. Madonna appealed.

Supreme Court spokesman Joseph Chigona told Reuters on Thursday that the announcement would be made on Friday.

Malawi's government came under fire after Madonna adopted a 13-month-old child, David Banda, in 2006, with critics accusing it of giving her special treatment by skirting laws that ban non-residents from adopting children.

REUTERS

Doherty arrested for drunk driving, drugs

TROUBLE British rocker Pete Doherty has been arrested in western England on suspicion of drink-driving and possession of drugs, police sources say.

The incident comes only a week after the Babyshambles singer, 30, was fined by Swiss authorities for what sources said was a drugs offence.

"At approximately 12:30 a.m. on June 11, officers on patrol in Eastgate Street, Gloucester saw a car being driven erratically," a police spokeswoman said.

The car stopped in a nearby street and a man and woman found in the vehicle were arrested.

"The man who is 30 and from the Marlborough area of Wiltshire was arrested on suspicion of drunk-driving, possession of drugs and failing to stop for police," the spokeswoman said.

The woman, 30, from London, was also arrested on suspicion of possessing drugs.

The former Libertines frontman, who has fought a well-publicized battle with drugs, was jailed last year for breaching the terms of a probation order.

REUTERS

Exit Heidi, enter Holly Montag

Holly, sister of Heidi Pratt, made her debut on NBC's I'm a Celebrity...Get Me Out of Here! Wednesday night. Montag is replacing Heidi and her husband, Spencer, who quit the show for good after Heidi was hospitalized with a reported ulcer. **USMAGAZINE.COM**

Television

Letterman finally victorious

CBS' Late Show overtakes NBC's Tonight Show in ratings last week

Julia Roberts and the Black Eyed Peas helped David Letterman overtake Conan O'Brien in the late-night ratings competition Tuesday night.

CBS' Late Show earned a higher overnight number than NBC's Tonight Show for the first time since the NBC late-night franchise switched hosts from Jay Leno to Conan O'Brien last week.

On the seventh day of Letterman vs. O'Brien, CBS earned a 3.4 metered-market household rating to NBC's 2.9. Late Show was also up 13 per cent from the previous week and 17 per cent from the year-earlier period.

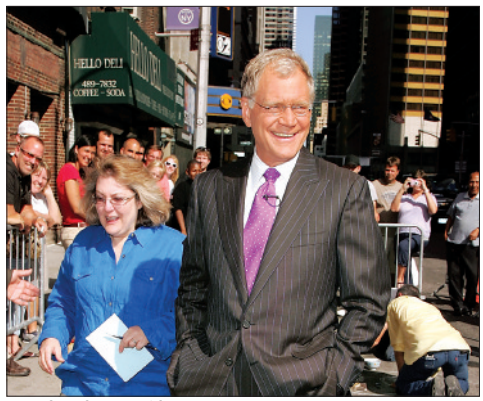
O'Brien's guests Tuesday were Eddie Murphy, Angela Kinsey and Bonnie Raitt.

The ratings gap between the hosts has been narrowing nearly every night since O'Brien took the helm of Tonight on June 1. The last time Late Show topped Tonight under Jay Leno was eight months ago.

One mitigating factor: NBC aired live National Hockey League playoff coverage Tuesday in primetime, which led to low-rated local programming airing in the latter hours on the West Coast, potentially providing Tonight with a weaker-than-usual lead-in.

When asked about O'Brien's ratings Tuesday at an event, NBC co-chair Marc Graboff noted that the late-night ratings game "is a marathon," not a sprint, and that this is a contest that will be fought over years.

REUTERS



GETTY IMAGES

Late Show host David Letterman.

FRIDAY

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
6/12/09	251	308	3	CBC	NHL Hockey		News (N)	22 Minutes	CBC News: the fifth estate		CBC News: The National (N)		The Hour (N)
primetime	255	358	6	JOY	E News	The Insider	The E! True Hollywood Story	Michael J. Fox. (N) (CC)		20/20 (CC)		News (N)
	250	321	9	CTV	etalk (CC)	Hollywood	Ghost Whisperer (CC)		Flashpoint (CC)	Spectacle: Elivs		News (N)
	252	336	11	GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	The Unit "Sub Conscious"		NCIS "Twisted Sister" (CC)	NUMB3RS (CC)		News (N)
	256	389	12	VI	The Road to Avonlea		Don't Forget the Lyrics! (N)		Samantha	Samantha	Spectacle: Elivs	News (N)
	253	359	13	CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Real Alberta		Departures (CC) (DVS)		Out There	Out There	The CityNews
	-	-	14	CW	Deal-No Deal	Deal-No Deal	Privileged (CC)		Hates Chris	The Game	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15	CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	Ghost Whisperer (CC)		Flashpoint (CC)		NUMB3RS (CC)		News (N)
	287	379	16	NBC	Evening Mag.	Inside Edition	Cancer Breakthroughs		Dateline NBC (CC)		Dateline NBC (CC)		News (N)
	288	380	17	ABC	Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Surviving	Goode Family	Samantha	Samantha	20/20 (CC)		News
	290	382	23	FOX	Two Men	Two Men	Don't Forget the Lyrics! (N)		Mental "Book of Judges"		News (N)	Most Wanted	Family Guy
news	502	390	26	NW	CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National		CBC News: the fifth estate		National
	500	500	33	CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Cooper 360
sports	407	419	22	RSP	MLB Baseball Oakland Athletics at San Francisco Giants. (Subject to Blackout) (Live)						Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet
family	400	400	30	TSN	SportsCentre (Live) (CC)			Off-Record	Boxing Friday Night Fights. (Same-day Tape) (CC)				SportsCentre
	552	543	25	YTV	Just My Luck ★ (2006) Lindsay Lohan, Chris Pine. (CC)				Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	Family Biz	Adrenaline	Mystery Hnt.
	555	545	30	TEL	Batman	Spider-Man	Wolverine	Justice	Futurama	Pan's Labyrinth ★★★★ (2006, Fantasy) Sergi López.			
variety	268	354	5	KNO	For King and Country (CC)		Poirot (CC)		Life Begins (CC)		Juicy Danger Meets Burning		General Idea
	575	583	20	CMT	Blessings ★★ (2003, Drama) Mary Tyler Moore, Liam Waite, China Chow.					Candid C.	Blessings ★★ (2003) Mary Tyler Moore.		
	615	520	31	A&E	CSI: Miami (CC)		Criminal Minds "True Night"		CSI: Miami "Ambush" (CC)		CSI: Miami "All In" (CC)		CSI: Miami
	521	560	24	TLC	Masters of Reception		What Not to Wear "Jessie"		Masters of Reception		What Not to Wear "Michelle"		Weddings
	616	522	39	SHO	The Outer Limits (CC)		The Best Years		Kenny	Kenny	Trailer Park	Trailer Park	Webdreams
	294	650	27	TBS	(6:00) You, Me and Dupree		Sex and-City	Sex and-City	(:10) Not Another Teen Movie ★ (2001) Chyler Leigh.				Deuce
	603	561	32	FN	Diners	Diners	Ramsay's Kitchen		Unwrapped	Unwrapped	Bobby Flay	Dinner	Diners
	320	621	30	CEN	(6:30) Escape to Canada		Step Brothers ★★ (2008) Will Ferrell. (CC)		(:45) The Brothers Solomon ★ (2007) Will Arnett. (CC)				
	581	566	101	MTV	True Love	The X Effect	Teen Cribs	MTV Live	College Life "Year End"		True Love	The X Effect	Model

SATURDAY

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
6/13/09	251	308	3	CBC	The Nature of Things (CC)		The Week the Women Went		Da Vinci's City Hall		Intelligence (CC) (DVS)		News (CC)
primetime	255	358	6	JOY	Out There	E News	Rich Poor	Rich Poor	Still Small Voices (2007, Suspense) Catherine Bell. (CC)				News (N)
	250	321	9	CTV	W-FIVE (CC)		Nightwaves (2003) Sherilyn Fenn, David Nerman. (CC)				Law & Order: SVU		News (N)
	252	336	11	GTV	Doc "Till We Meet Again"		The Unit (CC)		Doc "Pick Your Poison"		Doc "No Pain, No Gain" (N)		News (N)
	256	389	12	VI	New Canoe	Island Week	The Road to Avonlea		Kool Countdown (CC)		Comedy Now	Comedy Now	Bravo! Fact
	253	359	13	CITY	Without a Trace (CC)		Murdoch Mysteries		Nightwaves (2003, Drama) Sherilyn Fenn. (CC) (DVS)				Role
	-	-	14	CW	CSI: NY (CC)		Boston Legal (CC)		Boston Legal "Rescue Me"		CSI: NY "Child's Play" (CC)		CSI: Miami
	289	381	15	CBS	Entertainment Tonight (N)		Without a Trace (CC)		Harper's Island "Seep" (N)		48 Hours Mystery (CC)		News (N)
	287	379	16	NBC	Pregame	MLS Soccer San Jose Earthquakes at Seattle Sounders FC.				Backroads	Law & Order: SVU		News (N)
	288	380	17	ABC	Fortune	Jeopardy!	The Haunted Mansion ★★ (2003) Eddie Murphy. (CC)				Pushing Daisies "Kerplunk"		News
	290	382	23	FOX	Two Men	Two Men	Cops (CC)	Cops (CC)	America's Most Wanted		News (N)	Most Wanted	MADtv (CC)
news	502	390	26	NW	Doc Zone (CC)		Sat. Report	Weekend	Sat. Report	Mansbridge	Doc Zone (CC)		Sat. Report
	500	500	33	CNN	Newsroom		Newsroom		Larry King Live		Newsroom		Newsroom
sports	407	419	22	RSP	MLB Baseball		Best Damn Top 50 Special		The Ultimate Fighter		Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Poker
family	400	400	30	TSN	NASCAR Racing: Nationwide Series			SportsCentre	(Live) (CC)	Track and Field		Boxing	SportsCentre
	552	543	25	YTV	Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	Survive This	Adrenaline	In Real Life "Farm Frenzy"		Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.
	555	545	30	TEL	Kangaroo Jack: G'Day U.S.A.! (2004)			Shaun-Sheep	Futurama	Chicken	Clone High	Rick & Steve	Moral Orel
variety	268	354	5	KNO	National Geographic (CC)		Heartbeat (CC)		Midsomer Murders "Second Sight" (CC)				Jazz
	575	583	20	CMT	Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Tracks	Sessions	Liar Liar ★★ (1997, Comedy) Jim Carrey, Maura Tierney.				Liar Liar ★★
	615	520	31	A&E	The Fugitive	Manhunters	The Sopranos "Boca" (CC)		The Fugitive ★★★ (1993) Harrison Ford, Tommy Lee Jones. (CC)				
	521	560	24	TLC	48 Hours: Hard Evidence		48 Hours: Hard Evidence		48 Hours: Hard Evidence		48 Hours: Hard Evidence		Serial ...
	616	522	39	SHO	(6:00) Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde		Anna's Storm (2007, Action) Sheree Wilson. (CC)				Rocky Balboa ★★★ (2006) Premiere. (CC)		
	294	650	27	TBS	(6:00) Mean Girls ★★★		The Sweetest Thing ★ (2002) (CC)		Clueless ★★★ (1995, Comedy) Alicia Silverstone. (CC)				
	603	561	32	FN	Kitchen Nightmares (CC)		Chef Jeff Project (CC)		Challenge (CC)		Dear Food Network		Nightmares
	320	621	30	CEN	(6:15) The Last Winter (2006)		The Dark Knight ★★★★ (2008, Action) Christian Bale. Premiere. (CC)					(:35) Spider-Man 3 ★★ (CC)	
	581	566	101	MTV	Cribs (CC)	Cribs (CC)	Cribs (CC)	Cribs (CC)	Canada's Next Top Model		Canada's Next Top Model		Model

SUNDAY

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
6/14/09	251	308	3	CBC	Heartland (CC) (DVS)		René Lévesque II (2009) Emmanuel Bilodeau. (CC) (DVS)				CBC News: Sunday Night (N)		News (CC)
primetime	255	358	6	JOY	Inside Hollywood		Extreme Makeover: Home		To Be Announced				News (N)
	250	321	9	CTV	Corner Gas	Degrassi	She Drives Me Crazy (2007) Melinda Clarke. Premiere.				Without a Trace (CC)		News (N)
	252	336	11	GTV	16:9 Picture	King of Hill	Simpsons	Bob & Doug	Family Guy	Amer Dad	The Unit (CC)		News (N)
	256	389	12	VI	Funniest Home Videos		Million Dollar Password (N)		Cold Case "The Dealer"		Canada's Next Top Model		New Canoe
	253	359	13	CITY	Kimmel	Hates Chris	Kings (CC)		Royal Pains "Pilot" (Series Premiere) (N)			Less-Kind	Role
	-	-	14	CW	Jericho (CC)		Pumpkin ★★ (2002, Comedy) Christina Ricci, Hank Harris.				Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Cold Case
	289	381	15	CBS	60 Minutes (CC)		Million Dollar Password (N)		Cold Case "The Dealer"		Without a Trace (CC)		News (N)
	287	379	16	NBC	Dateline NBC (CC)		10.5: Apocalypse ★★ (2006, Suspense) Kim Delaney, Beau Bridges, David Cubitt. (CC)						News (N)
	288	380	17	ABC	NBA Basketball: Finals		Kimmel	Fortune	Monk (CC)		Problem Solve		News
	290	382	23	FOX	King of Hill	Amer Dad	Simpsons	King of Hill	Family Guy	Amer Dad	News (N)	Sports	House "DNR"
news	502	390	26	NW	Frontline "The Madoff Affair"		Global Hunt for Mr. Swirl		CBC News: Sunday Night		Frontline "The Madoff Affair"		Doc Zone
	500	500	33	CNN	Newsroom		Newsroom		Larry King Live		Newsroom		Union
sports	407	419	22	RSP	MLB Baseball: Teams TBA		Sportsnet Connected (Live)		The Ultimate Fighter		Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet
family	400	400	30	TSN	NBA Basketball: Finals		SportsCentre (Live) (CC)		World Poker Tour From Las Vegas.				SportsCentre
	552	543	25	YTV	(6:00) Nacho Libre ★★		SpongeBob	Prank Patrol	In Real Life "Auto Racing"		Adrenaline	Survive This	Mystery Hnt.
	555	545	30	TEL	Jimmy Two	Totally Spies	6TEEN	6TEEN (CC)	Futurama	Punch (CC)	Life's a Zoo	Life's a Zoo	Rick & Steve
variety	268	354	5	KNO	National Geographic (CC)		Inspector Morse: Infernal Serpent (1990) John Thaw. (CC)				Life Begins (N) (CC)		Jazz
	575	583	20	CMT	The Bodyguard ★★ (1992, Drama) Kevin Costner, Whitney Houston, Gary Kemp.						The Bodyguard ★★ (1992) Kevin Costner.		
	615	520	31	A&E	Hammertime	Hammertime	Gene Simmons		Dog	Dog	Simmons	Simmons	Hammertime
	521	560	24	TLC	48 Hours: Hard Evidence		48 Hours: Hard Evidence		48 Hours: Hard Evidence		48 Hours: Hard Evidence		48 Hours
	616	522	39	SHO	The Guard "The Beacon"		The Haunting of Sorority Row (2007) Leighton Meester.				Rescue Me "Thaw" (CC)		The Guard
	294	650	27	TBS	Step Up ★★ (2006) (PA) Channing Tatum, Jenna Dewan.				Sister Act ★★ (1992) (PA) Whoopi Goldberg. (CC)				Step Up ★★
	603	561	32	FN	Jamie Oliver's Ministry		Restaurant Makeover (CC)		Get on Plate	Food	Iron Chef America (CC)		Jamie Oliver
	320	621	30	CEN	Mee-Shee	(:45) A Mighty Heart ★★★ (2007) Angelina Jolie. (CC)					(:35) American Gangster ★★★ (2007) Denzel Washington.		
	581	566	101	MTV	Cribs (CC)	Cribs (CC)	After	MTV News	Cribs (CC)	Cribs (CC)	Cribs (CC)	Cribs (CC)	MTV News

U.S. TV transition nearing

DIGITAL TV Just days before the transition to digital television, 2.8 million households, or 2.5 per cent of the TV market, are unprepared.

According to Nielsen, the latest tally is half of the 5.8 million that were unprepared in February, when the government postponed the transition by four months.

At a news conference Wednesday in Los Angeles, acting Federal Communications Commission chairman Michael Copps reiterated the importance of the transition and said the agency was expecting relatively minor problems when the switchover begins Friday.

"This is the biggest transition in television, an even bigger transition than black-and-white to colour," Copps said.

REUTERS

Potheads to star in new pilot

COMEDY Jonathan Sadowski and Keir O'Donnell will star as potheads on a quest in the pilot for Ghosts/Aliens, a live-action comedy for Comedy Central.

Based on the supernatural comic novel by Trey Hamburger (a pen name of Official Ninja Book author Robert Hamburger), Ghost/Aliens centres on Trey Hamburger (Sadowski) and his loyal best friend, Mike Stevens (O'Donnell), who set out to expose the truth about the existence of ghosts and aliens.

Also cast in the pilot, written by Phil Johnston, are Rebecca Wisocky as Trey's volatile single mom and Kaylee DeFer (The War at Home) as a member of Trey's quartet of alien hunters and his possible love interest.

The material also is being developed as a feature film for Viacom sibling Paramount Vantage. If Ghost/Aliens is picked up as a series on Comedy Central, the show's cast would be attached to star in the potential movie.

Sadowski, recently seen in Friday the 13th, next co-stars in the comedy feature The Goods: Live Hard, Sell Hard.

Paul Blart: Mall Cop co-star O'Donnell next will be seen in the romantic comedy-drama When in Rome.

HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

Buckley joins One Tree Hill

TV Robert Buckley, probably best known for his boy-toy role on Lipstick Jungle, is joining the cast of One Tree Hill.

On the CW series, which enters its seventh season this fall, Buckley will play Clayton, a brash young sports agent who represents Nathan Scott (James Lafferty) and has become a close friend, business partner and adviser to him.

The upcoming season of OTH marks a transition for the show, after the departure of two original cast members, Chad Michael Murray and Hilarie Burton.

This past season, Buckley appeared in multiple episodes of another CW series, Privileged. NBC's Lipstick Jungle was canceled in March after two seasons.

REUTERS

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Behar on TV

Joy Behar is getting her own talk show. She'll still keep her day job as View cohost, The New York Times reports. The Joy Behar Show will air at 9 p.m., beginning in September on CNN's sister channel HLN. USMAGAZINE.COM

Going Out

Examining Media Issues

InDepth

Foreign Journalists:

The sentencing of two American journalists — Laura Ling and Euna Lee — to 12 years in a North Korean labour camp helped place the spotlight on the dangers reporters face while trying to do their jobs. The committee to Protect Journalists announced in 2005 that murder was the leading cause of job-related death among journalists, and found the Philippines, Iraq, Columbia, Bangladesh and Russia to be among the most dangerous. Here are some suggestions to learn more about the dangers journalists face:

• **ONLINE:** Canadian Journalists for Free Expression (cjfe.org) is "committed to watching over regions of the world where journalists are assaulted, threatened, kidnapped and killed for reporting the news." The Committee to Protect Journalists (cpj.org) is an independent,nonprofit organization promoting press freedom worldwide by defending the rights of journalists to report the news without fear of reprisal.

• **MOVIES:** The films When the Sky Falls and Veronica Guerin — starring Cate Blanchett — both tell the story of the Irish crime reporter who was murdered while driving a few kilometers outside Dublin in 1996 by drug dealers. Another movie that deals with the dangers journalists face on the job is The Killing Fields (based on the experiences of three journalists in Cambodia during the Khmer Rouge regime).

• **BOOKS:** We Wish to Inform You That Tomorrow We Will Be Killed With Our Families: Stories from Rwanda, by The New Yorker writer Philip Gourevitch, chronicles the mass killings and strife during the Rwanda genocide. Bruce Chatwin's What Am I Doing Here includes a number of semi-fictional stories about his experiences as a writer — including a tense experience in Africa. The incident is also examined in Nicholas Shakespeare's biography of the Sunday Times journalist, Bruce Chatwin: A Biography.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

No MJ concerts?

A music promoter Wednesday sued to stop Michael Jackson from performing in London this year, claiming his appearances would violate a prior contract.

New Jersey-based AllGood Entertainment Inc. contends in the lawsuit filed in federal court in New York it signed a deal with the singer's manager, Frank DiLeo, in November committing him to an appearance in the U.S. this summer.

Under the agreement, Jackson is not supposed to give another concert before that show, the lawsuit states. Jackson has signed with AEG Live to play 50 shows at London's O2 Arena starting in July.

AllGood Entertainment contends those shows violate the New Jersey company's agreement with DiLeo, which it says predates the singer's deal with AEG Live.

Representatives for Jackson and AEG Live were not immediately available to comment.

AEG Live, which is named in the lawsuit, has previously called AllGood Entertainment's claims meaningless.

REUTERS

Carradine death not suicide: U.S. Expert

REPORT A U.S. forensics expert has examined the remains of David Carradine and believes he didn't commit suicide, according to the late actor's family, CBCNewsOnline reports. Keith and Robert Carradine revealed the finding by noted forensic pathologist Michael Baden on Thursday. They also thanked U.S. and Thai officials for continued work in the investigation during the family's "profoundly painful time."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Metro's 7th Heaven: Metro taps what's hot right now

1 David Alvarez

ACTOR This Montreal-born 15-year-old shared the best actor award for the musical Billy Elliot at the prestigious Tony Awards Sunday night. Only a handful of Canadians have achieved this feat before but that's not the most remarkable thing about Alvarez. The teen had never acted, sung or tap danced until he started training for the Elliot role, which took him six weeks to master.

2 Heavy Metal

TREND Is good old-fashioned hair-and-leather rock ready for a comeback? Consider these: Metal legends Iron Maiden recently released their live CD/DVD Flight 666. Mock-metal legends Spinal Tap are dancing with the devil once again with new album Back From The Dead. And Canadian metal underdogs Anvil announced that they will be opening for AC/DC at some North American venues.

3 Bitte Orca: The Dirty Projectors

ALBUM If you checked the current playlists of Bjork, David Byrne and Vampire Weekend, this Brooklyn quintet would probably be on non-stop replay mode. The band has garnered rave reviews in music mags.

4 The Sims 3

GAME Fake people are bringing in some real cash for gaming publisher Electronic Arts Inc. The latest instalment of the popular PC game sold 1.4 million copies in its first week, making it the bestselling PC game launch in EA's history. Last year, the original Sims became the top-selling computer game ever.

5 Adam Lambert

CELEB Don't say you didn't hear the closet creaking. The mascara-laden America Idol runner-up has revealed to Rolling Stone that he's gay. Although he never denied his sexuality (photos of him kissing his ex-boyfriend appeared in March), this is the first time he has been forthcoming.

6 iPhone

GADGET Everyone's favourite little toy got a brand new feature: Lower prices. Now you will only shell out $99 (instead of $199) for Apple's 8GB iPhone.

7 GM reinvention commercial

AD The erstwhile sugar daddy of corporate America gets on its knees in this 60-second salvo to win back years of faith lost.

Mix of Six

Touched by Tibet

Where: Vancity Theatre, 1181 Seymour
When: Friday to Monday

The second Touched by Tibet film series anticipated this year's return visit to Vancouver by His Holiness the Dalai Lama in September with new films about the culture, religion, politics and people of Tibet. Info: vifc.org.

FUSE Weekend

Where: Vancouver Art Gallery
When: Saturday-Sunday

Explore what makes a "city" with 18 family-friendly activities in and around the Gallery, including 17th century street games, sound and animation workshops, mural-making, outdoor walks, films, music and more. Info: vanartgallery.bc.ca.

Play On! street hockey tournament

Where: Streets around GM Place
When: Saturday-Sunday

National 4 on 4 Street Hockey Tournament and Outdoor Hockey Festival brings together hockey enthusiasts of all ages and abilities. DJs, NHL prizes, appearances by former NHLers and celebrity games, complete the event. Info: playon.ca.

Fighting cancer with comedy

Where: River Rock Show Theatre
When: Saturday

Comedian Irwin Barker, who was diagnosed with a rare type of cancer and given one year to live in June 2007, returns for a hilarious evening with proceeds going to the Richmond Hospital Foundation. Info: riverrock.com.

Sawan Mela

Where: Lumberman's Arch, Stanley Park
When: Saturday-Sunday

Free family event showcases Bhangra, Gidha as well as classical and modern dances. An Indian bazzar, arts and paintings, and Indian food are also part of this 7th annual celebration. Info: safa.ca.

Bard on the Beach

When: All weekend
Where: Vanier Park

Seeing double leads to hilarity in this rollicking comedy about two sets of twins, separated as infants. As wives, lovers, merchants and friends encounter the twins, the mistaken identities lead to merry misunderstandings and chaos. Info: bardonthebeach.org.

Drew and Justin: Oddballs together
On-off couple Drew Barrymore and Justin Long were spotted out in Beverly Hills this week with their arms around each other with, oddly, fortune cookie messages affixed to their foreheads, according to Showbiz Spy. METRO WORLD NEWS

Celebrity Buzz

Miss California stripped of crown

PUSHED OUT Learning she was stripped of her title, former Miss California USA Carrie Prejean says her opposition to gay marriage was responsible for her ouster, people.com reports.

"None of this would be happening right now if I just said, 'Yeah, gays should get married. You're right, Perez Hilton.'" Prejean, 22, told Access Hollywood's Billy Bush. After Bush informed Prejean live on his radio show that she'd been dethroned, she responded: "That's the first that I've heard of it, Billy."

During the pageant in April, judge Hilton asked Prejean her opinion of gay marriage. She replied that it is her belief marriage should be exclusively between a man and a woman — a response that sparked controversy, especially when her strong anti-gay-marriage activism was revealed, as were topless photos from her past and the news that she had undergone breast enhancements.

Still, last month Miss USA co-owner Donald Trump announced Prejean could keep her crown. That changed Wednesday. "To me she was the sweetest thing. Everyone else, she treated like s—," Trump told TMZ about Prejean.

The biggest professional hurdle for the beauty queen, apparently, was making good on her commitments to the pageant, said officials. She was fired, Miss California USA executive director Keith Lewis said in a statement, "Based solely on contract violations including Ms. Prejean's unwillingness to make appearances on behalf of the Miss California USA Organization."

Disputing that claim, Prejean told Bush: "I've tried to reach out to them, and I've done several appearances and I'm going to be presenting at the Special Olympics this weekend as an honorary guest. I mean, I've been co-operating with them. I don't see why this is happening." METRO NEWS SERVICES

How many cars does it take for Beyoncé to cross the road?

LAZY Beyoncé Knowles took a 14-metre car ride from her London hotel to a shop, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The singer took two chauffeur-driven vehicles containing her team and bodyguards, trailed by paparazzi, on a car journey from the Mandarin Oriental Hotel — located in the exclusive Knightsbridge area — to the Harvey Nicholls department store located opposite.

Knowles reportedly demanded she be driven because she didn't want to walk in her high heels. After being escorted around the designer store for just 20 minutes, she took her car back to her hotel.

A source told Britain's Daily Star newspaper: "Beyoncé has always been down to earth but her antics were astonishing.

"It looked like they were preparing for a long journey, but it was over as soon as it began ... It would have been much quicker to have strolled across the road."

The 27-year-old singer is in the U.K. for the final dates of her I Am world tour. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Rihanna ordered to testify

LEGALLY COMPELLED Rihanna has officially been subpoenaed to testify in the case against her ex-boyfriend, Chris Brown, who is accused of assaulting her.

"Rihanna was served at my office by L.A. DA investigators," her attorney, Donald Etra told People magazine. "If the preliminary hearing indeed goes forward, she is now legally required to be there, she will be there, and will answer all questions truthfully."

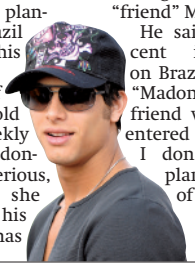
The hearing is set for June 22, when it will be decided if there is enough evidence against Brown to go to trial. METRO WORLD NEWS

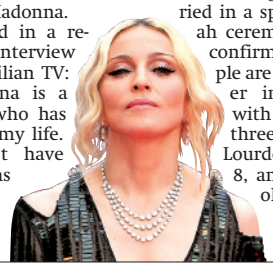
GETTY IMAGES

Madonna and Jesus at odds

NOT ON THE SAME PAGE Madonna is to meet her 22-year-old boyfriend's parents, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The 50-year-old singer wants to take her relationship with underwear model Jesus Luz to the next level and is planning to fly to Brazil to get to know his family.

A friend of the pop star told In Touch Weekly magazine: "Madonna is getting serious, so that's why she wants to meet his family. She has been growing closer to Jesus every day. The big age difference doesn't mean a thing to her."





But Luz — who has been dating the singer since late last year — seems far less willing to commit to his "friend" Madonna.

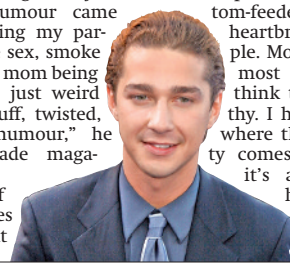
He said in a recent interview on Brazilian TV: "Madonna is a friend who has entered my life. I don't have plans of marrying her. I can't say if she is the girl of my life. She is a marvellous and nice person."

However, Luz's father Luis Heitor Pinto da Luz recently revealed the couple is considering getting married in a special Kabbalah ceremony. He also confirmed the couple are living together in New York with Madonna's three children, Lourdes, 12, Rocco, 8, and three-year-old David. METRO WORLD NEWS

Shia's twisted childhood

A PSYCHIATRIST'S DREAM Shia LaBeouf credits his parents for his strange funny bone.

"My humour came from seeing my parents have sex, smoke weed, my mom being naked — just weird hippie stuff, twisted, R-rated humour," he told Parade magazine.



LaBeouf also takes a moment to have a go at the entire acting profession, saying, "It's a profession of bottom-feeders and heartbroken people. Most actors on most days don't think they're worthy. I have no idea where this insecurity comes from, but it's a God-sized hole." METRO WORLD NEWS

Paris and Doug call it quits

SHORT-LIVED Paris Hilton is back on the market after splitting with her boyfriend Doug Reinhardt, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The heiress had been dating The Hills star since Christmas and had publicly declared her love for him, calling him her "best friend" and "future husband."

A spokesperson for Hilton told people.com, "Yes, this is true they are no longer together.

"They remain friends and ask that you please respect their privacy."

The news comes a day after Hilton declared Reinhardt was "hotter" than Brad Pitt on Jimmy Kimmel Live. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Lohan family persecuted: Dad

GUILTY OF BEING LOHAN At least one wave of legal trouble has evaporated for Michael Lohan, who had harassment charges filed against him dropped. Lohan was arrested in April after claims that he threatened to kill his fiancée, Erin Muller, during a phone call.

"It just goes to show you how the police and press twist things and make things into something they aren't," Lohan told E! News. "Especially when the Lohans or any public figures are involved." METRO WORLD NEWS

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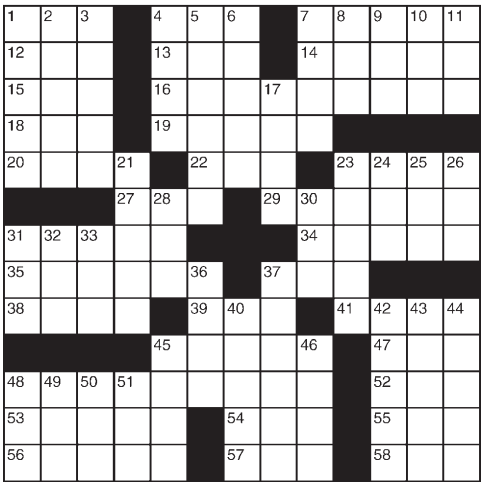
Take Five



Crossword across

1 Hood's weapon
4 Crow's comment
7 "... — finest hour"
12 Mentalist Geller
13 It's all in vein
14 Dirty cop?
15 Silly Putty container
16 Has insomnia
18 Seek restitution
19 Skiers' mecca
20 Six years in the Senate
22 CBS logo
23 Heavy reading
27 A billion years
29 "Humoresque" composer
31 Youngster
34 Quickly
35 Tea varieties
37 "CSI" evidence
38 "So be it"
39 Gorilla
41 "J'accuse" writer
45 Fragment
47 Wrestling win
48 Has insomnia
52 Sort
53 "Farewell, Francisco"
54 Evening hour
55 To the — degree
56 Automaton
57 List-ending abbr.
58 Ar follower

Crossword down

1 Visitor
2 Engage in forensics
3 Eldrick Woods
4 Pop choice
5 Up
6 Lachrymose
7 Compared to
8 Partner of 32-Down
9 Geological time
10 Annoy
11 White alternative
17 Burpee buy
21 Casaba or Crenshaw
23 November birthstone
24 Man-mouse link
25 Buddy
26 — out a living
28 Tribute in verse
30 Moving transport
31 IRS employee
32 See 8-Down
33 White House nickname
36 Go yachting
37 Duplicity
40 Source of irritation
42 Voice a view
43 Cheery melodies
44 Egyptian crosses
45 "Hey, you!"
46 Grand story
48 Jam ingredient?
49 Commotion
50 Pen point
51 Excessively

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

8			3		2			1
		5			1			
				7			2	
4	6			2				9
		2	7		8	1		
7				4			5	3
	5			1				
			5			7		
9			6		7			4

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

8	3	9	4	6	7	5	1	2
4	7	5	1	2	9	8	3	6
1	2	6	8	3	5	9	7	4
5	4	8	3	7	2	1	6	9
9	1	2	6	8	4	7	5	3
3	6	7	5	9	1	4	2	8
7	9	4	2	5	6	3	8	1
6	5	3	9	1	8	2	4	7
2	8	1	7	4	3	6	9	5

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:

Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min.....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day

Italian Meatballs in Tomato Sauce

INGREDIENTS:

1 1/2 tsp (7 ml) olive oil
2 garlic cloves, finely chopped
2 celery stalks, finely chopped
8 oz (250 g) lean ground beef
8 oz (250 g) lean ground pork
1/2 cup (125 ml) fresh bread crumbs
1 egg white
1/4 tsp (1 ml) dried oregano
1/4 tsp (1 ml) dried basil
1 can crushed tomatoes
2 onions, finely chopped
2 tbsp (25 ml) tomato paste
2 tbsp (25 ml) chopped parsley
1/8 tsp (0.5 ml) black pepper

METHOD:

1. Preheat oven to 350°F (180°C). In small frying pan , heat oil over moderate heat. Add garlic and celery and sauté until softened and lightly browned, 5 minutes. Remove from heat and let cool slightly.
2. In bowl, combine ground beef, ground pork, bread crumbs, egg white, oregano and basil. Stir in celery mixture until just combined.
3. Using your hands, shape mixture into 16 meatballs about 1 1/2 in (3.5 cm) across.
4. Spray rack with vegetable oil cooking spray. Place meatballs on rack over baking tray, and bake until well browned on all sides, 10 to 15 minutes, turning occasionally. Transfer to plate and reserve. Meanwhile, in large nonstick frying pan over moderate heat, combine tomatoes, onions and tomato paste and bring to boil. Cover and simmer mixture until slightly thickened, about 12 minutes.
5. Return meatballs to frying pan. Cover and cook until cooked through, 20 minutes. Stir parsley into tomato sauce and season with black pepper.

SERVES 4

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

sallybrompton.com

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Come the early part of next week you will be focused on a new plan or project. Today's disappointments will soon be forgotten.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Loved ones will be rather negative in their views today and you are advised to ignore their dismal outlook and follow your instincts.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
You appear to have overlooked a number of small but important details and that carelessness is now holding you back.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
If you change something that does not appear to be working now you will regret it later in the month when the Sun moves into your favour.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
The fact is you are the kind of larger-than-life character who tends to attract gossip. You should be flattered. At least you've been noticed.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
If a friend or colleague is in difficulties make it your mission to rescue them. Don't wait to be asked for assistance, they may be too proud to ask.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Why are you worrying about a situation that will, in all probability, work out for the best? Forget it. It's simply not worth the effort.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
You want to believe what someone is telling you but every fibre of your being says they are trying to deceive you.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
According to the planets the only thing you are guilty of is trying to please too many people. Try pleasing yourself for a change.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
If you feel that a certain course of action is right then press ahead with it, even if everyone else seems to think you've got it wrong. Trust yourself.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
You see deeper and further than most people but sometimes it works against you in that it makes you reluctant to take risks.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
A friend or family member is telling you only part of a story. Make it your business to get the other side of the story from the relevant source.

This day in history

JUNE 12, 1665: England installs a municipal government in New York City (the former Dutch settlement of New Amsterdam).
JUNE 12, 1942: Holocaust: Future essayist Anne Frank receives a diary for her thirteenth birthday.
JUNE 12, 1964: Anti-apartheid activist and ANC leader Nelson Mandela is sentenced to life in prison for sabotage in South Africa.
JUNE 12, 1967: The United States Supreme Court in Loving v. Virginia declares all U.S. state laws that prohibit interracial marriage to be unconstitutional.
JUNE 12, 1991: Russians elect Boris Yeltsin as the president of the republic.

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INCLUDES 3 nights 3-star accom and hop-on hop-off double decker bus pass. **BONUS** Toronto Inner Harbour & Island cruise included.

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INCLUDES 3 nights 3-star accom and city sightseeing tour. **BONUS** admission and transportation to Butchart Gardens included.

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Wells Grey Provincial Park FROM **$579** taxes & fees included
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Pacific Rim Whales & Bears FROM **$1399** taxes & fees included
INCLUDES 6 nights 3-star accom (2 nights in Vancouver, 2 nights in Victoria & 2 nights in Tofino), ferry transfers and roundtrip transfers to Tofino. **BONUS** Whale Watch tour in Victoria and Bear Watch tour in Tofino included.

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FROM **$577**
+ taxes & fees $264
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, transfers and 7 nights 5-star all-inclusive accom.

Puerto Vallarta 4-Star FROM **$587** + taxes & fees $264
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, transfers and 7 nights 4-star all-inclusive accom.

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INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, transfers and 7 nights 5-star all-inclusive accom.

Costa Rica 4.5-Star FROM **$787** + taxes & fees $211
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Europe Holidays

PARIS
FROM **$893**
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Greek Islands Sailing FROM **$899** + local payment EUR200
INCLUDES 8 days aboard a 50-foot yacht, snorkelling equipment, skipper and captain on this sailing adventure of the Greek Islands. Explore ancient archaeological sites, taverna-lined harbours and dine on fresh seafood.

Rome Coast FROM **$1097** + taxes & fees $368
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, transfers and 7 nights 3-star accom with daily breakfast and dinner located on the Roman Coast.

Amsterdam 7 Nights FROM **$1227** + taxes & fees $424
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, 7 nights 3-star accom with breakfast daily, hop-on hop-off canal boat bus pass and 2 half-day tours.

Cruise Holidays

Eastern Caribbean FROM **$419^** + taxes & fees $59
INCLUDES 7-night Carnival cruise, onboard meals & entertainment. Sail roundtrip from Miami and visit San Juan, St. Thomas and St. Maarten. Port charges included. **UPGRADE** to oceanview cabin from $12 per night.

Mediterranean FROM **$539** + taxes & fees $57
INCLUDES 6-night Royal Caribbean cruise, onboard meals & entertainment. Sail from Rome and visit Florence/Livorno, Nice/Villefranche, Barcelona and Malaga. Port charges included.

South America FROM **$995** + taxes & fees $260
INCLUDES 14-day NCL cruise, onboard meals & entertainment. Sail from Buenos Aires to Valparaiso Chile and visit Montevideo, Puerto Madryn, Port Stanley Falkland Islands, Ushuaia, Punta Arenas, Puerto Chacabuco and Puerto Montt. Also cruise the Cape Horn, Beagle Channel (Glacier cruising), Strait of Magellan, Chilean Fjords, Patagonic Channels and Canal Moraleda. Port charges included.

USA Holidays

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FROM **$389**
+ taxes & fees $105
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare and 3 nights 4-star accom on the Las Vegas Strip. **BONUS** tickets to Cirque du Soleil or *Disney's The Lion King* included.

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ADD San Francisco wine country tour from $77.

Hawai'i 7 Nights FROM **$697** + taxes & fees $143
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Disney's Disneyland* Hotel** FROM **$649 + taxes & fees $127
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, transfers, 5 nights accom at *Disney's Disneyland* Hotel and 5-day *Disneyland* Resort *Park Hopper* Bonus Ticket.

Disney's Grand Californian* Resort & Spa** FROM **$749 + taxes & fees $127
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, transfers, 5 nights accom at *Disney's Grand California* Resort & Spa and 5-day *Disneyland* Resort *Park Hopper* Bonus Ticket.

Disneyland

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